

No charges filed, but...

Army escalates action against gay reservist and legislator Steve May.
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Creating Change '99

Activists debate gender, identity issues and take to the streets against Knight.
pages 17-18



Divinely decadent
Joely Fisher opens in touring 'Cabaret.'
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 29 • No. 46 • 18 November 1999

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Creating Change activists protest TG discrimination in Oakland



Liz Highleyman

NGLTF Executive Director Kerry Lobel was one of several speakers at a rally in front of Oakland Police Department headquarters Saturday, November 13, in response to an officer's handling of an incident involving a transgender woman.

by Liz Highleyman

People who attended last week's Creating Change conference in Oakland got to put what they'd learned at workshops into direct action last Saturday, November 13, when over 1,000 participants from the annual conference converged on the Oakland Police Department headquarters to protest violence and discrimination against transgendered people.

The march and rally was sparked by an incident that occurred in the early morning hours that same day. Witnesses said that a young African American transgendered woman (who was not attending the conference and whose name is being withheld to protect her privacy) was assaulted at 14th and Broadway streets near the Oakland Convention Center where Creating Change was being held.

According to Romello, a witness and friend of the victim, who declined to give her last name, the transgendered woman and some friends had engaged in a verbal ar-

gument with some other women on the street at about 3 a.m. Two men came upon the scene, one of whom "got in my sister's face," Romello stated. The transgendered woman asked the man to back off, he swung at her, and they engaged in a physical fight, during which the woman sustained cuts to her hand, arm, and face, allegedly inflicted by a broken bottle.

When the police arrived, they asked the transgender woman for identification and, according to Romello, "treated her like a criminal." Witnesses said that an Oakland police officer told the woman and a group of about 10 "gender variant and queer" friends and onlookers that he was "tired of your shit," and did not want to deal with the "paperwork" involved in filing an incident report.

Some Creating Change participants were among the witnesses to the altercation, and informed conference organizers and attendees of what had occurred. Transgender activists and allies quickly began planning Saturday afternoon for an action that evening.

The protesters gathered in the lobby of

page 16 ►

Coming soon: Medical pot IDs

by Terry Beswick

Penalty smoking pot in San Francisco may soon be a tad less stressful, at least for card-carrying members of a planned city medical marijuana identification program.

Under legislation currently being considered by the Board of Supervisors, qualifying marijuana users and their primary caregivers will soon be eligible to get identification cards issued by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

The ID, which will be given to users bearing a physician's letter of diagnosis for their medical condition, will act as a city permit authorizing use of marijuana. If harassed by

police officers, users can flash their ID, showing that the health department has certified their legitimate medical need for marijuana, defined as "serious" under California law.

Although participation in the local program is to be voluntary, those who do not carry a card will likely find themselves more vulnerable to police scrutiny. Cops may assume that the smoker is not treating a medical condition – they're just smoking pot, a Schedule 1 illegal drug.

"The police are not interested in people who have the medical cards," said Officer Sherman Ackerson, spokesman for the San Francisco Police Department. "We're worried about the people who do not have them."

"It may be cold, but they may have to fend for themselves," said Wayne Justmann

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Starla Heaney smoked medical marijuana at the SF Patients' Resource Center
David Smith

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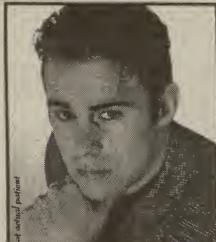
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Big bucks for charity



Board members of the South of Market Merchants' Individual Lifestyles Events (SMILE) were all aglow last Thursday, November 10, when they presented a check to various community charities for a record \$215,000 that represents the net proceeds from the Dore Alley and Folsom Street fairs.

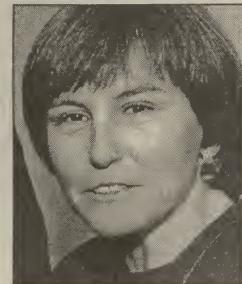
By Peter Marcus

Achtenberg named to CSU board of trustees

by Cynthia Laird

Governor Gray Davis on Tuesday, November 16, appointed openly lesbian Roberta Achtenberg to the board of trustees of the California State University (CSU) system. Achtenberg, a former member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, is senior vice president for public policy at the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. The CSU trustees oversee the quality of education and policies governing the 23 campuses in California.

"Roberta's appointment is clear and well-deserved recognition of her good work during many years on behalf of interests critical to educational excellence and workforce development," said G. Rhea Serpan, the chamber's president and chief executive officer. "These are issues that are at



Ric Gerhardt

Roberta Achtenberg

the top of the agenda for businesses throughout the state, and Roberta's experience, expertise, and leadership will be a valuable asset to CSU's board of trustees."

"I am pleased and honored to be appointed as a trustee," said Achtenberg. "Because of CSU's role in

educating and training the majority of California's teachers, this is a wonderful opportunity to support excellence in the system that will be translated to quality education throughout California's classrooms.

"Education is where it all starts. Our goal is to prepare a workforce that can continue to sustain California's economic growth and quality of life," she added.

In addition to her position at the chamber, Achtenberg is a workforce development consultant to the Mills Corporation. From 1993-1997, she served as senior advisor and assistant secretary for former Secretary Henry Cisneros of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. She also serves on the board of the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco. Achtenberg's appointment to the unpaid position is subject to confirmation by the state Senate. ▼

LGBT youth photos on display tonight

by Katie Szymanski

Queer youth will show the fruits of their labor tonight (Thursday, November 18) at a photo exhibit sponsored by Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC). The exhibit is a one-night show and takes place at 2187 Market Street. It is the result of a photography class where lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth

were encouraged to photograph their own environments in order to develop a unique vision.

More than 40 photos will be on display, all of which were taken, developed, and printed by queer youth. The photography class, led by professional photographer Alyson Belcher, taught technical aspects of photography and also encouraged participants to study the work of other photographers, particularly artists who have studied HIV/AIDS and queer issues in

their work. It is one of many classes offered through LYRIC's arts and media program, which seeks to decrease self-destructive or "at-risk" behaviors of queer youth and provide opportunities for building self-confidence and a sense of empowerment. ▼

The exhibit runs from 6 to 9 p.m. and admission is free. For more information, call (415) 703-6150, extension 24.

AGUILAS hosts awards celebration tonight

by Katie Szymanski

Aamblea de Gays Unidos Impactando Latinos a Superarse (AGUILAS), the organization for Latino gays, will

host its sixth annual awards celebration tonight (Thursday, November 18), at 7 p.m. in the Neiman Marcus Rotunda Room, 150 Stockton Street. The event, entitled, "Nuevos Niveles de Excelencia, Acerando el Nuevo Mil-

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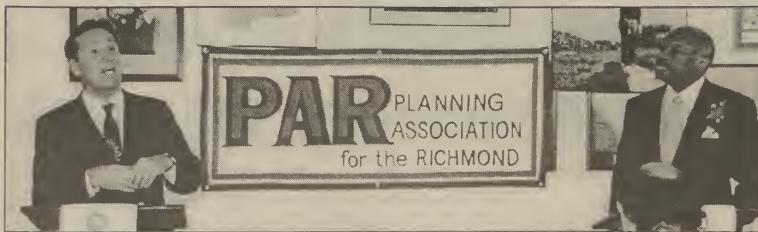
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nio/New Levels of Excellence, Soaring to the New Millennium" will honor City Treasurer Susan Leal, civil rights lawyer and community activist Victor Marquez, Latina lesbian and bisexual women's organization ELLAS en Accion, performance group Latin Hustle, and AGUILAS co-chair Larry Gonzalez.

Entertainment will be provided by the Julio Bravo Orchestra, and Club Pan Dulce will host the after party. Before the event, AGUILAS will announce plans to expand services to gay and bisexual Latino men and youth for the year 2000. Tickets start at \$25, and reservations can be made by calling AGUILAS at (415) 558-8403. ▼

COMMUNITY NEWS



Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano and Mayor Willie Brown at their first debate.

Ammiano and Brown face-off in first debate

by Terry Beswick

There were no clear winners Tuesday, November 16, when the two contenders to lead San Francisco into the 21st century faced off in the first debate of the runoff election.

Incumbent Mayor Willie Brown stood stage left of Tom Ammiano, president of the Board of Supervisors, at the neighborhood event hosted by the Planning Association for the Richmond.

But Brown was clearly to the right of his challenger on everything from taxes to shopping carts.

"I do not support any tax increases in this city. Period," Brown exhorted.

"What I'm about is trying to stop corporate wealth here," declared Ammiano. "You want me to read my lips - like George Bush - and say no more taxes? I'll do that, but when times are tough, corporations should pay their fair share."

Brown struck a commanding, more polished stance for most of the hourlong debate. He said that when he became mayor, the city was "dysfunctional in almost every respect," but since then he has managed to "turn all that around."

Still, the mayor occasionally struck a more modest tone. "Let me tell you," he said, "I'm begin-

ning to learn a lot more than I learned three years ago."

In contrast, Ammiano, who won a spot in the December 14 runoff after entering the race as a write-in candidate just three weeks before the November 2 election, appeared rushed at times during his first face-to-face mayoral debate.

Homelessness dominated the discussion between the city's two most powerful policy-makers, offering a hungry press corps the chance to draw a distinction between the candidates.

The two could not even agree on the scope of the problem.

Ammiano estimated an average homeless population of 13,000 to 14,000, and called for more shelters, transitional housing, and drug treatment programs.

Brown countered that there was an "overestimation of the homeless problem in San Francisco."

"We provide the greatest array of services for the homeless of all cities in the United States," he said, and spoke repeatedly about the need for homeless people to take personal responsibility for their own lives.

"Most of the time they are so off they can't take advantage of the services available to them," Brown said, adding that the city offers "drug treatment on demand to the extent that we've been able to do so."

"We need more than lip ser-

vice for drug treatment on demand," countered Ammiano.

"San Francisco has one of the highest rents and the lowest vacancy rates," Ammiano said, claiming that there is a "total lack of oversight and coordination" among city agencies charged with serving the homeless population.

Later in the debate, a Richmond merchant complained that she is losing \$3,000 a year to stolen shopping carts.

Ammiano said the issue has become "symbolic" of the problem, and called for police to give 24 hours notice before seizing shopping carts from the homeless.

He proposed the creation of a fund, perhaps with donations from Cala and Safeway, to buy "granny carts" for the homeless to carry their personal belongings.

"Criminalization of people just because they're homeless is not what San Francisco is all about," Ammiano said.

"I went all over the city trying to shop and couldn't find a shopping cart," because they were all stolen, Brown responded, earning laughter from the crowd.

Noting that the costs of stolen carts are passed along to consumers, he disagreed with Ammiano's proposals. "We're not going to give you 24 hours to disappear with your shopping cart," he said. ▼

Men raise \$8,000 for Lyon-Martin clinic

by Katie Szymanski

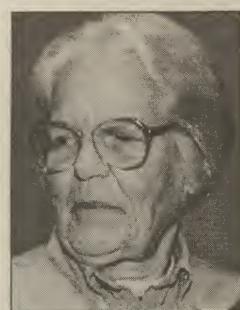
Twas out of recognition for all that women have done for their gay male friends - especially during the AIDS crisis - that the Reverend Jim Mitulski of Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco (MCCSF) decided to "give back" to the lesbian community. When he heard that the Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services Clinic was in financial trouble, he saw something "very wrong" with allowing the clinic to perish.

"Let's re-pay the debt," was the message he brought to gay men at MCCSF, and to a wider audience through a guest opinion last month in the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"Lesbians have been there for us monetarily and communally," Mitulski told the *B.A.R.*, "I couldn't believe that after all their AIDS work we could ignore their health needs."

Well, they didn't. Men came through in a matter of months, raising a total of \$8,036 for Lyon-Martin. Of that money, \$4,500 was raised by the men of MCCSF, and the rest was raised through men who read the *B.A.R.* column.

Mitulski presented the check to clinic representatives on November 7 during a church service that included a speech from Del



Del Martin speaking at MCCSF

Martin herself. Lyon-Martin has a \$150,000 deficit, but the \$8,000 raised will help the clinic continue to offer basic services without accruing more debt and endangering its existence.

"This donation is both life saving as well as a sign of community support," Marj Plumb, interim executive director of Lyon-Martin, told the *B.A.R.* "It is important to realize that they did not wait to be asked for help, but jumped in, raised the money, and called us to say, 'Come over and get it!'"

Plumb said community support for the clinic has been evident, with groups like the

women's motorcycle club holding a bike wash that raised \$600.

Still, nothing has yet made a dent in the debt, which is a hefty one-sixth of the clinic's \$900,000 annual budget.

"It's going to take a lot to get that debt down," said Plumb, who emphasized that the clinic receives very little city support.

"San Francisco has never invested in this place," she said, noting that the city donates about \$20,000 a year to the clinic. "It has never been supported enough to be able to offer just basic services."

Mitulski said that more fundraisers are planned for women's organizations, and that he hopes to continue to aid the clinic.

"It just seems odd that with all the donations we make as a community, such a vital institution should be in danger," he said. ▼

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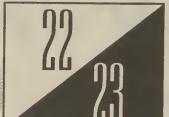
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PHOTO BY BARRY MUNIZ



Brothers launch drive to legalize same-sex marriage

by Terry Beswick

Tom Henning says that he is
tired of the gay community
always being on the defensive.

But some gay people seem to
find Henning's alternative offensive.

Henning and his brother John,
both openly gay, have founded a
grassroots group called Californians
for Same-Sex Marriage. They
have filed papers with the Califor-
nia Secretary of State's office
which declares their intention to
put an amendment to the state
Constitution on the November
2000 ballot that would legalize
marriage of same-sex couples.

"We've defended ourselves
against Briggs, against HIV,
against Reagan, and against
Helms. And now, Pete Knight,"
Tom Henning told the congrega-
tion of the Metropolitan Com-
munity Church-San Francisco last

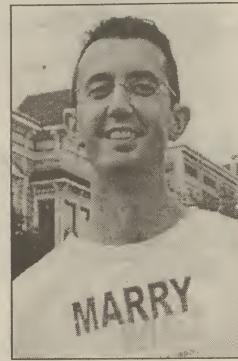
Sunday, November 14. "Instead of
defending, we are now seeking to
move forward."

Their campaign needs to sub-
mit 670,000 signatures to the Sec-
retary of State by mid-April 2000.

The deadline falls about one
month after the March 7 primary
election, when Proposition 22, the
Knight initiative which would ban
recognition of same-sex mar-
riages in the state, will be decided
by California voters.

But Californians for Fairness,
the official campaign to defeat the
Knight initiative, is not happy about
the timing of the Hennings' effort.

"Any effort in our community
on behalf of a candidate or initiative
that would detract from de-
feating the Knight initiative is un-
fortunate," said Mike Marshall,
manager of the No on Knight
campaign. Proposition 22 was
supported by 50 percent of the



Tom Henning

voters in a recent poll, compared
to 44 percent who were opposed.
According to the most recent

page 31 ▶

Gov. appoints Bauman to head L.A. office

by Terry Beswick

Governor Gray Davis an-
nounced the appointment
last Thursday, November
11, of Eric Bauman as director of
the governor's Los Angeles re-
gional office.

Bauman will also continue to
serve as a special assistant to the
governor, a post he has held since July.

Recently elected to a second
two-year term as president of the
Stonewall Democratic Club in Los
Angeles, Bauman said he provides
the governor advice on many is-
sues affecting the gay community,
in addition to nursing, health
care, and HIV issues, in his capacity
as special assistant. Bauman is
also on the executive committee
of the statewide gay lobby group,
California Alliance for Pride and

Equality.

A registered nurse by profes-
sion, Bauman holds a bachelor of
science degree from Century Uni-
versity in Albuquerque, New Mexico
and Los Angeles. Since 1990, he
and his lover of 16 years have oper-
ated a consulting business special-
izing in nursing administration.

In his new position, Bauman
will oversee a staff of 20 at the
governor's largest office outside of
Sacramento. He said the office is
"both a full constituent office and a
full executive office" for the gov-
ernor, who maintains a residence
in the Los Angeles area.

"I think it's once again another
statement of the governor's com-
fort with our community to
appoint as the person to head his
Los Angeles office an openly gay
man," Bauman told the Bay Area
Reporter. ▶

Richmond/Ermet AIDS Foundation co-founder Peggy Ermet dies

by Cynthia Laird

Peggy Ermet, who co-found-
ed the Richmond/Ermet AIDS
Foundation with Barbara Richmond
in 1994, died Monday, November 1 at Silver
Oaks Nursing Home in Liver-
more, California. She was 78 and
had suffered from a long battle
with severe depression.

After losing her only son,
Doug Ermet, to complications
from AIDS in 1994, Peggy Ermet,
along with her lifelong friend Bar-
bara Richmond, decided to turn
their grief into action and with
the help of close friends Ken Hen-
derson and Joe Seiler, founded the
Richmond/Ermet AIDS Foundation
as a way to honor their sons' mem-
ories and to help alleviate the
suffering of all other sons and
daughters suffering from HIV and
AIDS. Richmond had also lost her
only son to the disease.

Ermet and Richmond were
friends since childhood, and when
Ermet, a San Francisco native,
moved back to the city after her
husband died in the early 1980s,
they shared a flat. "We're not les-
bians but I guess we really are do-



Peggy Ermet

mestic partners," Richmond once
said.

The Richmond/Ermet AIDS
Foundation is best known for its
annual Help is on the Way bene-
fits. The first one was held May 15,
1995 at the Palace of Fine Arts
Theater in San Francisco and sold
out. Each successive event has also
sold out and the show has raised
more money each year. Recent
productions have featured stars
from Broadway, television, and

film, as well as the best of Bay Area
talent. The most recent event held
earlier this year, raised \$150,000
for several Bay Area AIDS organiza-
tions and Broadway Cares/Equity
Fights AIDS.

Ermet figured prominently in
all of the early productions, and
she and Richmond were constant
sources of inspiration to founda-
tion officers and committee mem-
bers, assisting with mailings, con-
soling other parents grieving for
lost children, and teaching toler-
ance and acceptance to all they
encountered.

Ermet and Richmond created
a legacy to their sons and created
a means to help alleviate the pain
and suffering to thousands of
other sons and daughters living
with HIV/AIDS.

Ermet is survived by her sister,
Connie Duke; her niece, Sandy
Mailman; nephew, Larry Duke;
and many loving friends.

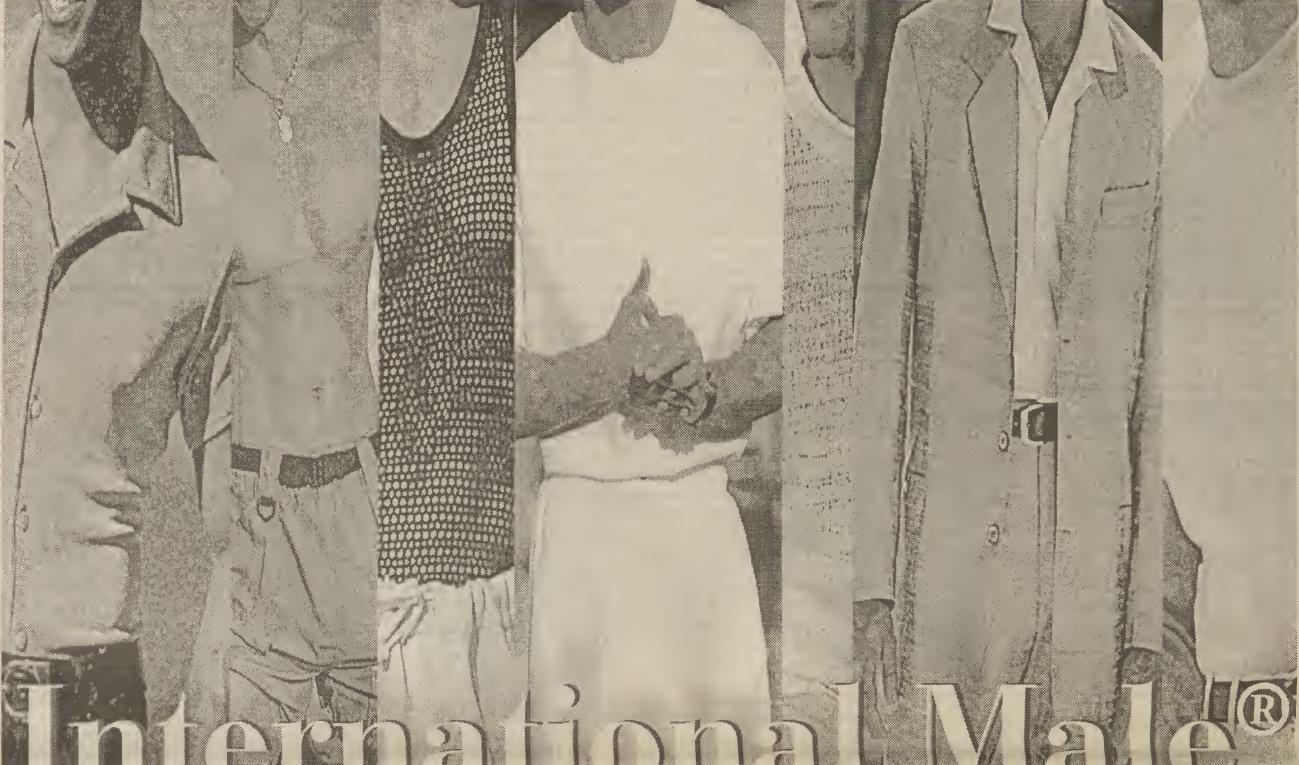
A celebration of Ermet's life is
being planned. For more informa-
tion, call (415) 931-0317. In
lieu of flowers, her family requests
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Change created in Oakland

An Oakland police officer picked the right time to display insensitivity toward a transgender woman who was involved in an altercation with some men last weekend, saying he was "tired of your shit," and did not want to deal with the "paperwork" involved in filing a report. Several members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community who were in town for the Creating Change conference witnessed the event and correctly reported it to conference organizers. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), which produces Creating Change, and the East Bay host committee sprang into action and after conferring with witnesses and others, held a march and rally to the Oakland Police Department headquarters some four blocks from the conference site.

There's nothing like seeing over 1,000 LGBT activists take to the streets with signs and chants to bring home the importance of accountability for law enforcement. To its credit, the police department had several officers standing outside when the protesters arrived, and one of them, Lieutenant Eric Breshears, even addressed the group and pledged that the department will "absolutely look into" the incident. Breshears also invited witnesses to immediately file statements about the incident, and that, too, was the right thing to do. Breshears, who had only heard about the incident shortly before protesters descended on headquarters, took a proactive stance, rather than staying holed up inside.

Kerry Lobel, NGLTF's executive director, was accurate in her description of the incident. "What happened ... is a classic example of blame the victim. A young trans person of color was attacked. The police officer responds to the crime by saying he is 'tired of having to do all this paperwork.'

"We are trans people, people of color, young people – we are not paperwork."

Lobel went on to say that the situation has got to change, and we agree. As she said, we in the LGBT community demand respect from the officers sworn to protect us. Incidents like the one in the early morning hours last Saturday contribute to the wave of hate and violence with insensitivity and verbal slurs.

Lobel ended her comments stating that

she hopes the incident leads to change in the Oakland Police Department and from the looks of things, change is about to take place.

Pete King, president of East Bay Pride, Inc., spoke at the rally and outlined a series of demands from the local LGBT community. One of them is a meeting with police Chief Richard Word, who just took over the top post in July. We understand that LGBT residents have a meeting scheduled with Word this week, where they will presumably discuss past incidents of alleged insensitivity and unsolved murders of several Oakland trans people.

Another demand asked of the police department is the appointment of a permanent liaison between the police and the LGBT community and this, too, we hear is being worked on. Such a move would only help the police and LGBT community by

opening up a regular avenue of communication and that is vital if change is to occur.

For the moment, it appears that the Oakland Police Department is willing to work with the community, and we sincerely hope this is just the beginning. And, while we never like to hear of instances of police insensitivity, we're glad no one was seriously injured – there were no reports of police brutality in this case – and that it happened when there were thousands of people in town to help bring it to the forefront of issues that need to be addressed in Oakland.

The Creating Change conference is all about learning how to change things within and outside of the LGBT community to improve the quality of life and explore new ideas. By rapidly organizing a response and listing reasonable demands, protesters succeeded in a way few probably thought of when the conference began. ▼

Pardon me, could you tell me again what part of my "shit" you're "tired of"?



The divisive Knight initiative

by Rev. Alan Jones

Church leaders are beginning to ask their congregations to support the "Definition of Marriage" initiative on the March 2000 ballot in California. The Roman Catholic bishops have already endorsed the initiative, and the Mormons have also declared their positive support. I adamantly oppose it. The Knight initiative (Proposition 22) is unnecessary, divisive, and polarizing.

The initiative is deceptively simple. We all think we know what marriage is, and therefore that next March we are simply being asked to affirm what the vast majority of human beings believe. The truth is that nothing in politics is simple. Underneath this initiative is fear, ignorance, and prejudice about the nature of homosexuality. Even simple words like marriage and family get us into trouble. Rigid positions are camouflaged by harmless sounding code words. So a "Definition of Marriage Act" looks innocent but underneath are issues of sex, women, the Bible, homosexuality, power, money, control – just to name a few.

Let's look at a couple of the issues: the American Family, the words "nature" and "natural." In a major study 10 years ago (1989 Mass Mutual) respondents were asked to choose among the following three definitions of the "family":

- 1) a group of people related by blood, marriage or adoption – 22 percent;
- 2) a group of people living in one household – 3 percent;
- 3) a group of people who love and care for one another – 74 percent.

Sixty-one percent responded that "family" was the most important thing in their life. So, family is our most important insti-

tution even though it has been redefined. Diversity of definition of the family does not mean its demise. "The traditional definition of family, based on blood and law, has been supplanted for three out of four adult Americans by another definition based on love and nurture." This study is 10 years old. Imagine what the results would be now.

"Nature" and "natural" are dangerous words. "Natural Law" and the "Law of Nature" have often been invoked to keep people in line. The church, sadly, has found itself time and time again on the wrong side of history – just think of Galileo and how long it took to apologize. There were exceptions of course – people of heroic faith who led their communities into a more just view of the world. A great deal of violence has been done to bodies and souls in the name of nature. Is war natural? Is slavery natural? Is cruelty natural? My mother used to say, "It's only human nature dear!" when she read about something ghastly in the newspaper. So we have to be very careful when we appeal to nature. There's a low view and a high view.

What we call the law of nature is often really about race, gender, and class. The present appeal to "Nature" is a way of attacking homosexuality and is part of a long history of injustice. Archbishop Levada of San Francisco recently appealed to the law of nature and suggested that the good order of society is in jeopardy if we do not support this initiative. He writes, "I suggest the good order of society itself requires us to draw a line to protect the institution of marriage and the family."

This is where a dose of history is useful. Human beings have tended to defend the status quo, claiming that it is in accord with

what is natural. Slavery was once thought to be of the natural order and sanctioned by Scripture, so was racism and the subjugation of women (it was "unnatural" for women to want the vote). The wasting of the planet was justified because our domination of nature was our right. The maintenance of the class system was also thought part of the divine plan. There was a verse of hymn which read "The Rich man in his castle/the poor man at his gate/God made them high and lowly/And ordered their estate."

It is dangerous, therefore, to make claims of what is natural with regard to human beings. What we call human nature is inextricably bound up with politics, power, and social structures. Those

who take issue with the word "marriage" when applied to people of the same sex need to discern the subtext of this divisive and polarizing initiative. I know of gay couples who have had to resort to one adopting the other as a means of ensuring civil and legal protection of their committed relationships.

What then is at issue here? Civil rights plain and simple. Marriage needs neither defense nor definition. I want my gay friends and colleagues to enjoy the same civil rights concerning property, access and decency as those who are married. ▼

Guest Opinion

The Very Reverend Alan Jones is dean of Grace Cathedral in San Francisco. He will be talking about the Knight initiative at a forum, "The Knight Initiative: Pro and Con" on Sunday, November 28, at 9:30 a.m. in Gresham Hall at Grace Cathedral, 1100 California Street, atop Nob Hill.

Hallinan's 'roots' in the community

I nearly choked on my bran muffin when I read District Attorney Terence Hallinan's remark in the *Chronicle* that his receiving the Harvey Milk Club's endorsement "takes me back to my roots."

This is the guy who not only ran against Harvey Milk for supervisor, but also after Harvey's assassination tried to snatch Harvey's and the gay community's seat away from the gay man Harvey named in his tape recorded will as his preferred successor, Harry Britt. Fortunately, with the fervent support of the Milk Club and the progressive coalition Harvey and Harry had built, Supervisor Harry Britt was able to trounce Hallinan and his homophobia-tinted campaign.

For Hallinan to proclaim "roots" in the Milk Club would be insulting if it weren't so laughable.

Jim Rivaldo
San Francisco

Political deadbeats?

Your endorsement of Willie Brown proves that you're political deadbeats. Even the *New York Times* observed that Tom Ammiano's write-in candidacy, if successful, will be an historic first. Meanwhile, you, the other paper, and that Alice Club want to continue the tradition of backroom deals. In 1987, the other paper and a few lesbians conspired to prevent Harry Britt from going to Congress. Now, you want to stop Ammiano from becoming mayor.

Philip H. Willkie
San Francisco

The mayoralty election

The Royal King versus the Uncrowned Queen. To the victor – a dog and pony cart parade to City Hall from cloud nine, with the victor waving multicolored, festive balloons in an eerie, chaotic, gentle breeze.

Stanley Diamond
San Francisco

Response to political consultant

This is an open response to political consultant and gay activist Robert Barnes. He was quoted in Wayne Friday's November 11 column as asking, "What kind of signal does it send when our community has someone this gay-friendly in office and just dumps him for another simply because that person is gay?"

Mr. Barnes, there are some of us in the gay community that are voting for Tom Ammiano for reasons other than that of sexual preference. Mr. Ammiano insists that wages be commensurate with the cost of living. He argues that if businesses profit from mass transit, they should help pay for it. He also understands that artists, not just institutions of art, are a vital part of the social body. Along with other low-income San Franciscans, we have been chased from the city by a terrifyingly rapid gentrification.

Affordable housing would revitalize the culture of our city and offer a much-needed antidote to the dreadful and aesthetically reprehensible real estate development which has coincided with the length of Mr. Brown's tenure as mayor.

If you're worried about coalitions with other communities, don't. Mr. Brown's African American status or Mr. Ammiano's homosexuality are not what this election is about. In fact, Tom Ammiano's candidacy for mayor focuses political attention away from categories defined by identity politics and onto the issue of class – which has clearly unified people across boundaries of sexual preference and race. Rather than obscuring the issue of economic disparity with the tired rhetoric of identity politics, we have an opportunity to guide this city towards a view of the bigger picture. Since San Francisco leads the nation in economic prosperity, voluntary or enforced philanthropy is a balance now due. By escorting these long-concealed social obligations into the public arena, Tom Ammiano has offered San Franciscans some damn good reasons for coming out on December 14 to vote for him.

Cathy Lee Crane
San Francisco

Supporter's 10 reasons to vote for Tom

Both Robert Barnes and Wayne Friday (who is an appointee of the mayor) are totally out of touch if they think that nearly 50,000 people from all over the city voted for Tom Ammiano only because he's openly gay.

The fact that Ammiano is gay is not even on the list of the top 10 reasons I support him. One, Tom represents open, honest government, something we haven't had in this town for a long long time; two, he supports tenants and he rides Muni everyday and will, I believe, improve our transit system; three, he wants to help homeless people get their lives together, not penalize them with arrest and stigmatization; four, he opposes Ellis Act and owner move-in evictions; five, he's been there for workers, the working class, people of color, and those making under \$30,000 a year; six, he has no delusions of becoming emperor; seven, he won't "study" or repeal rent control; eight, he won't make

backroom deals; nine, he believes in a living wage, and in stopping the big guys from ripping us off via ATM double charges and the like; and 10, he will make affordable housing a priority.

Tommi Avicoli Mecca
San Francisco

Young people need to vote

California needs every freedom-loving voter in March 2000 to oppose the hate coalition (Mormon Church, Republican Party, fundies, Roman Catholic Church, racists, etc.). Will young people bother to be counted?

To participate, they must deviate, at least temporarily, from their usual boycotting. You can guesstimate turnout by age – roughly 20 percent of 20-somethings, 30 percent of persons 30 through 39, and so on upward.

Some just forget, while others refuse on principle. As queer anarchist Paul Goodman explained, "Citizenship and allegiance have simply tended to lapse. Since they can no longer effectively make important decisions about their destiny, Americans lose the sense of sovereignty altogether, and retreat to privatism." He could be predicting Gens Q, X, and Y, though he was writing in 1968.

Let's hope election boycotters will at least vote "No on hate," even if they ignore the rest of the ballot.

Tortuga Bi Liberty and April Love
Senior Unlimited Nudes
San Francisco

Location, location, location

Over the last year many opinions and points of view have been aired on the subject of bathhouses returning to San Francisco. The focus of individual rights, safe sex, ballot petitions, and privacy issues have been well documented. However, no one has addressed the subject of real estate. Any of the former locations where the bathhouses used to be have now been priced out of the market for such a business. Instead you will find a hot bed of Internet companies, "media gulch" enterprises, and loft catering to the employees of these companies. Would any of these former locations now tolerate a constant flow of patrons at two and three in the morning? I doubt it.

The capital required to open a bathhouse that would compare to the old Rich Street or Eighth and Howard is considerable. Ask anyone who has recently renovated a bathroom and multiply that times 10 for starters. Any individuals with such capital would more than likely be part of the extinct generation of gay men now in their late 40s and 50s. This may also be one of the reasons we are seeing businesses in the Castro with a presence on the big board instead of an owner you recognize from a beer bust. Maybe an investment in a bathhouse could come from a successful individual that has cleaned up on stock options. More than likely those dollars would return to where they came from in the form of a virtual bathhouse at www.butthole.com. It's a different ball game.

Allen Young
Alameda, California

Mel White's 'medicine show'

Regarding the Jerry Falwell-Mel White meeting, Jeff Wilson's letter (November 4) has it just right. After making megabucks from Falwell and Pat Robertson as their ghost writer, White now comes along as a champion of gays when it is safe to do so – and about 30 years too late. White's spiritual twaddle ("Soul Force") gives Falwell a fresh chance to grub for money under a false robe of tolerance. But there is someone else out there grubbing for money: Reverend Mel White. Trust and honor men like Harry Hay, Harvey Milk, Maurice Kite, Franklin Kameny and Arthur Evans – to name but a few – who fought for tolerance for gays when it was dangerous and costly to do so. Tell Reverend White to pack up his medicine show and leave the gay community to those who will defend it without any thought of personal gain.

Ken Miller
San Francisco

Help for HIVers with depression

I am writing in response to the letter from Alan Carson in the November 11 issue of the *Bay Area Reporter* in which he draws attention to the problem of major depression in the gay, lesbian, and HIV communities. Mr. Carson is correct to advocate for increased attention to this potentially life-threatening disorder.

Mr. Carson also advocates for an ongoing depression screening program designed to find and treat depression among those with HIV/AIDS. I am happy to say that at the AIDS Health Project (AHP), we offer just such a service. In fact, anyone who comes to our services center at 1930 Market Street for counseling or support services, completes a paper and pencil screening test for depression as part of the intake process. We do this to ensure that we do not miss any-

next page ►

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one who may be (even unknowingly) suffering from this disorder. If significant symptoms of depression are found, the client is referred for an evaluation with a mental health professional, and, if the situation warrants it, to a psychiatrist who can prescribe anti-depressant medication.

The AIDS Health Project's mission is to provide culturally sensitive counseling and education to stop the spread of HIV infection, and to help people face the emotional, psychological, and social challenges of living with HIV disease. We provide a range of free services at our services center to achieve these goals.

Anyone with HIV disease, or anyone at high risk for HIV infection who is concerned about depression, may schedule a free intake appointment with us by calling (415) 476-3902.

Our thanks to Mr. Carson for raising this important issue and for giving us the opportunity to inform the public of this valuable public resource.

James W. Dilley, M.D.
Executive Director
UCSF AIDS Health Project

Forum for older gay men was appreciated

It's been quite a while since one of your guest opinions spoke to me the way "Middle age concerns for gays" did in your Open Forum column of November 4. Like the writer, Regan Chapman, I find myself not fully prepared for middle age and was gratified to see that the Stop AIDS Project and Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group sponsored a program for us to discuss issues affecting gay and bisexual men over 45 years old.

I was one of more than 70 men who attended the "Our Time" community forum on November 6 and was overwhelmed by not only the number of men, but also by the diversity of interests and experiences. We talked about HIV prevention and general health issues, body image and aging, community and loneliness. It provided a wonderful and all too rare opportunity to talk with my peers and re-establish a sense of community among men who share more than just age. By program's end, it was clear to me that we are underserved in a number of ways including HIV prevention, general health issues, and social outlets.

I look forward to the opportunity to continue exploring these issues and building a community for those of us who often feel invisible. I applaud both Stop AIDS and Most Holy Redeemer for their commitment to create community forums that deal with issues which are relevant to our lives. Moreover, I encourage the *Bay Area Reporter* to continue to devote more attention and space to news and features that affect those of us over 45.

Malcolm Blum
San Francisco

Exchange system could help merchants

Regarding the Castro Neighborhood Council's "Save the Castro" movement, the encroachment of chain stores, and other changes in the neighborhood:

I don't believe we need to rely solely on slow and blunt instruments like zoning laws. We ourselves can create incentives to encourage Castro residents, merchants, and frequent visitors to shop at local businesses and keep resources circulating through the local community.

For example, some towns and cities have designed local currencies or mutual credit systems (sophisticated barter networks) so that even when cash is scarce, local merchants and residents can exchange their time and merchandise with each other.

As this neighborhood has no shortage of talent or good will, I believe an exchange system here could provide a fertile habitat for the growth of local friendships and business relationships, and perhaps even help lighten some of the demand for basic social services.

More details about various types of local exchange networks (Berkeley BREAD, Ithaca HOURS, Time Dollars, etc.) are available online at <http://www.transition.net/money>.

Emily Hoyer
San Francisco

Witnessing 'the end of the Castro'?

This appears to be the moment for the larger community to begin a major dialogue on the future and direction Castro Street is going. This moment, not unlike the AIDS crisis of the 1980s, threatens the Castro and surrounding neighborhoods like no other since.

Nine million people take the cable cars each year to Fisherman's Wharf on 27 cars that seat approximately 30 people each, and 30 standing. The F-Line has over 40 cars and seats more than that plus those standing, and is to go into the center of Fisherman's Wharf. The opening date is January 22. In just a few months, it is probable that millions of tourists will

begin coming to the Castro, and that this is perhaps one of the factors pushing up commercial rents in the district to all-time highs, and will, no doubt have a dramatic effect on the balance and nature of the only neighborhood like it in the world. We could be witnessing the end of the Castro right before our eyes.

Valley Pride Market might become Banana Republic very soon. This would be a major loss of community. Perhaps this store does not represent the upscale sensibilities of some people, but it is a place that represents neighborhood quality of life values that we all came here for.

Sullivan's Funeral Home, a place where many a gay man has passed through on his way to the afterlife, is the landlord for the Valley Pride building and, in our opinion, is doing a great disservice to the community by pushing Valley Pride Market out of business.

Valley Pride Market has been at that location for 27 years and not only offers a casual sense of community and a place to get groceries, but they are the only grocery that delivers to the homebound. They are willing to try to upscale their image and use of space, but it seems they are not being allowed the time to transform their store. Sullivan's Funeral Home seems to be more interested in "developing the property" to "market rate value" than in the neighborhood that so many call home. Now is the time to draw a line in the sand, and suggest that the neighborhood will boycott any chain store that replaces Valley Pride.

As for the Pottery Barn situation, this building is at the entrance to the Castro and all four corners officially known as Harvey Milk Plaza. This is the moment to deeply consider what is best for the community at large for the use of that building.

This is the time to put together an advisory committee to explore ways to use the building for gay institutions like the NAMES Project, the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society, and the Harvey Milk Institute for classes.

This is the moment to begin a capital fund, to turn this building, which is at the entrance to the Castro, into a showcase for the world to see, a showcase of the best of the life we have lived here in the Castro. It is in the interest of the city of San Francisco to ensure the valuable contributions of this neighborhood and the gay community at large that have so affected the world, be protected and expanded for socially tolerant people of the world to see. This will be part of our legacy to future generations.

The NAMES Project needs a new home and has national renown. The Gay and Lesbian Historical Society needs a new home and perhaps has national support as well. The Harvey Milk Institute needs room to grow as they don't have enough room for all their classes, and perhaps the City College district has some funds available for this.

Interested people should contact members of the Board of Supervisors and Sullivan's Funeral Home.

Toby Wiggin
Castro Neighborhood Council

No benefit from GE foods

The presence of genetically engineered (GE) food in the food supply does not benefit the public, and may be causing as yet unnoticed harm. The regulation of GE foods also appears to be in violation of the law, i.e. the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, which requires all new foods and additives to be proven safe before being introduced into the food supply.

Genetically engineered foods are currently incorporated into approximately 70 percent of all non-organic food products. They are unlabeled and cannot be identified by consumers. The amount of GE food in the food supply has been rapidly increasing. Genetically engineered foods have been shown to have reduced nutritional content, reduced yields, and increased herbicide residues. Genetically engineered foods will not feed the world's poor or save the environment. They will only increase profits of the pesticide companies promoting them, and increase need for pesticides. Why would pesticide companies promote GE foods if they truly would obviate pesticides?

The biotech industry claims that because nobody has proven harm, GE foods must be safe. However, since they are unlabeled, it is impossible for anybody to demonstrate a link between health problems and GE foods or monitor the situation. Absence of proven harm means nothing. In fact, one researcher in Scotland has shown harm to rats from eating GE foods.

The FDA regulatory policy is based on an improper assertion of equivalence between genetic engineering and traditional plant breeding. As a result, GE foods only require chemical tests, not safety tests. No GE foods currently on the market have ever been empirically demonstrated to be safe. This is in violation of the law because several of the FDA's own scientists objected to the FDA regulatory policy. For example, Dr. Louis Pribyl of the FDA microbiology group wrote, "There is a profound difference between the types of unexpected effects from traditional breeding and genetic engineering..." For more information, go to www.bio-integrity.org or www.purefood.org.

Dan Steinberg
San Francisco

POLITICS

LA to elect a gay mayor?

by Wayne Friday

Two weeks ago, with the news that Board of Supervisors President **Tom Ammiano** had come in second in the November 2 election to face Mayor **Willie Brown** in a December 14 runoff, it appeared that San Francisco was the only major American city with the possibility of electing an openly gay mayor. Now, from Los Angeles comes word that longtime City Councilman **Joel Wachs** finally made official what many political observers knew for years — that he is a gay man and hopes to become that city's first openly gay mayor in Los Angeles' municipal elections next year.

Wachs, 60, has served on the Los Angeles City Council for 28 years, representing an east San Fernando Valley district where he is very popular despite a large bloc of conservative voters residing in the area. A fiscal conservative, Wachs has nevertheless championed a long record on the City Council as one who is credited with bringing about that city's most comprehensive law prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment, and other areas. Long a supporter of equal rights for gays and lesbians — despite being in the closet since entering the political arena — Wachs has fought against what he viewed as entrapment by police in his city's gay bars in the 1970s and he wrote the city law prohibiting discrimination of any kind against people living with AIDS.

Whether or not Wachs's revelation last week that he is gay will have a detrimental effect on his mayoral candidacy is unclear; some longtime Los Angeles political observers say that Wachs will lose support while others claim it will make little, if any, difference to his chances of becoming mayor next year. **Ace Smith**, a respected campaign consultant and the son of former San Francisco District Attorney **Arlo Smith**, who is working on the mayoral campaign of **Steve Soboroff**, one of the two other announced candidates, told the *Los Angeles Times* that "I don't think it has any impact one way or another, frankly, I think being gay at this point is so accepted in the popular culture, I don't think people make judgments based on that anymore."

California Assembly Speaker **Antonio Villaraigosa**, who is also considered a champion of gay rights, is also an announced candidate in the Los Angeles mayoral race, while state Controller **Kathleen Connell** and Los Angeles County Supervisor **Zev Yaroslavsky** are considering entering the contest.

Wachs made his revelation during a matter-of-fact response to a question during a cable television show last week. His announcement has reportedly stirred up considerable interest among gay and lesbian civil rights groups around the country who are eager to help his candidacy.

Los Angeles also has a lesbian councilwoman, **Jackie Goldberg**, who is serving her second term; she was first elected after she announced her sexual ori-

tation. Goldberg congratulated Wachs's recent coming out and says that she believes his openness will help Wachs in his quest to become the mayor of the nation's second-largest city.

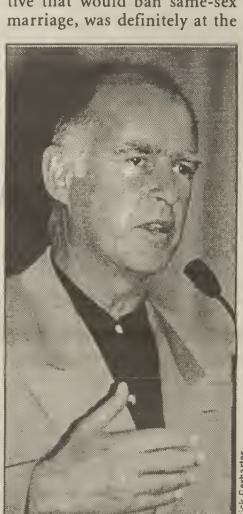
Politics and people

Memo to November 2 candidates: Unless your name is Willie Brown, Tom Ammiano, **Bill Fazio**, or **Terence Hallinan**, it's way past time to get your unsightly campaign signs down from public utility polls and the like around the city.

More than 2,500 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender activists met this past weekend in Oakland for this year's Creating Change conference. Mobilizing against California's Proposition 22, known as the Knight initiative that would ban same-sex marriage, was definitely at the



Our Man Friday



Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown

top of the agenda for the conference. Oakland Mayor **Jerry Brown**, speaking to more than 2,500 participants, received a standing ovation when he publicly announced his opposition to the anti-gay measure for the first time. Conference participants warned that the campaign on Proposition 22 is likely to heat up after the holidays, and San Francisco Supervisor **Mark Leno**, one of those spearheading the statewide campaign against the Knight initiative, said that while "California enjoys a sophisticated electorate, there is going to be an intense radio and television campaign for the initiative." He warned that "it's not going to be pleasant." Proponents of the measure, which include the Christian Coalition's anti-gay Reverend **Lou Sheldon**, have already raised more than \$4 million, while those in the No on Knight campaign also report good early fundraising but nothing close to the pro-Proposition 22 campaign's effort. Supervisor Ammiano, who is attempting to unseat Mayor Brown in next month's mayoral runoff, also addressed the conference, though not as a candidate for mayor. Early polls show Brown the favorite to keep his job for another four years.

Progress: When *Time* magazine reported last week that a write-in campaign had forced Mayor Brown into a runoff cam-

paign by the "president of the city's Board of Supervisors and part-time stand-up comedian, Tom Ammiano," the weekly national magazine, likely for the first time, didn't bother to mention that Ammiano is openly gay.

Meanwhile the runoff between the incumbent Terence Hallinan and challenger Bill Fazio for district attorney is said to be a toss-up that could go either way. Each campaign's effort to get out their targeted voters seems to be the key in this hard-fought race.

In other news from the DA's race, Hallinan, a day after receiving the endorsement (again) of former DA Arlo Smith, inadvertently attacked Smith's record of 16 years by telling the *Chronicle* that his (Hallinan's) conviction rate is still "higher than it was under Arlo Smith." Hallinan said the same thing on KTVU-TV November 3. Smith has got to be wondering when Hallinan will finally stop running against his record and start running against Fazio. Understandably, Hallinan is touchy about his conviction rate (said to be the worst in California), but this is not the way to show appreciation for an endorsement that even Smith calls "the lesser of two bad choices."

Friends of Assemblywoman **Carole Migden** are holding a fundraiser and reception for the popular legislator on December 1, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Cafe Niebaum-Coppola, 916 Kearny Street (fax: \$500; 415-928-2992 for info).

Several people from San Francisco traveled to Los Angeles this past weekend to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the incorporation of West Hollywood as America's most gay city. One-third of West Hollywood's 37,000 residents are thought to be gay or lesbian; three of the five-member City Councilmembers are gay men, including its mayor, **John Heilman**. West Hollywood is a 1.9 square mile area nestled between Hollywood and Beverly Hills and has flourished as one of the country's most successful cities since becoming incorporated in 1984.

As the Reverend **Jimmy Creech** goes to trial for the second time in Grand Island, Nebraska for performing a gay marriage, many feel the United Methodist Church's future hangs in the balance. Creech's trial stems from the "union ceremony" he performed for two gay men in Chapel Hill, North Carolina earlier this year. Creech's fate with his church will be decided by 13 ministers. He and his supporters say that if the church does not become more open to gays and lesbians, many of its 9.5 million members could leave, possibly forming a new denomination.

Arizona Senator **John McCain** is said to be in a virtual tie with front-runner **George W. Bush** in New Hampshire, home of the country's first presidential primary election. McCain's campaign, incidentally, is blaming the Bush people for stirring up the rumors about McCain's alleged "hot temper," thereby suggesting albeit ever so slightly, that the Arizona senator is somehow unbalanced and a bit short upstairs due to his five-plus years in a prisoner of war camp.

Meanwhile, as reported here earlier, the left-leaning 1992 independent candidate **Lenora Fu-**

page 12 ►

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Shepard, Falwell, and the future

by Dale Carpenter

In Laramie, Wyoming and Lynchburg, Virginia recently, we glimpsed a future for the gay civil rights movement. That future demands we exercise more mercy, forgiveness, and patience than our tormentors deserve. It asks us to be better than they, and stronger.

"I would like nothing better than to see you die, Mr. McKinney," said an anguished Dennis Shepard to his son's murderer this month in a Laramie courtroom. Aaron McKinney had just been convicted of killing Matthew Shepard and was facing a possible death sentence; the wishes of the victim's family would weigh heavily on any jury deciding the life-or-death question.

As an advocate of capital punishment, I'll admit to a special blood-lust when it comes to McKinney. He was the one who took the butt of a gun and beat senseless the 5-foot-2-inch, 110-pound Shepard. He was the one who tried to offer a reprehensible "gay panic" defense to his crime. He was the one who went back to his jail cell and signed autographs for his fellow inmates. The executioner's needle seemed too dignified an end for him.

Yet Shepard's parents intervened to save him, authorizing the prosecutor to agree to a life sentence. It was an extraordinary act. The most natural thing in the world would have been for the parents to stand up, tearfully recount their deep love for their first-born child, recite the horror of his death, and beg the jurors to exact a just vengeance on the primary perpetrator.

The Shepards' magnanimous

decision had nothing to do in principle with the death penalty, which the family supports, as did Matthew Shepard himself. Regardless of what the jury had decided about punishment, moreover, someone would have pounced on the outcome. If McKinney had been spared by the jury, some would have denounced the result as yet more proof of the need for hate-crime laws. If he'd been given death, others would have criticized it as yet more barbarity. Whatever the outcome, Shepard would have been used for others' ends.

The Shepard family had practical reasons for seeking leniency. The sentencing agreement strips McKinney of his right to appeal, a process that can take more than 10 years in death penalty cases. It also denies assorted hate groups the chance to make a martyr of the killer.

But there was another, deeper, and more instructive reason Shepard's family spared McKinney.

homosexuality is morally wrong.

I was uncomfortable with some of what they said. For one thing, there was too much false equivalence between Falwell's long record of anti-gay invective and the criticisms directed at him in reaction to that invective. But if the Lynchburg pilgrims have softened a leading voice of hatred, they will have scored a victory for equality that will redound to our benefit for many years in ways we may never fully appreciate.

It isn't the powerless who show mercy, it's the powerful. It isn't the timid who forgive, it's the self-confident. It isn't the weak who have patience, it's the strong. And it isn't the victim who looks a killer in the eyes and says, "Live," it's the victor.

This movement is going to have to be merciful to those who have done it wrong. Righteously angry, it is going to have to forgive homophobia's many offenses if it is to move beyond them. Exhausted by waiting, it is going to have to be patient with the seemingly implacable if it is ever to change them.

So maybe it's time to rethink our

**It isn't the powerless who show mercy, it's the powerful.
It isn't the timid who forgive, it's the self-confident.**

"This is the time to begin the healing process," explained Dennis Shepard in his moving courtroom speech, "to show mercy to someone who refused to show any mercy."

By their freely chosen act, Shepard's parents declared their son no longer a passive victim whose life and death was anybody's plaything - not his killers', not the anti-gay protesters', not the media's, and not the civil rights establishment's.

Like McKinney, the Reverend Jerry Falwell isn't high on any gay person's list. With four decades of gay-baiting behind him, Falwell has given religion a very bad name. Nevertheless, in October, the Reverend Mel White and 200 other religious gays traveled to Falwell's home church in Lynchburg in part to find common ground with Falwell and in part to get him to tone down his rhetoric.

To do that they had to look past Falwell's many sins against gay people. They had to forgive. They had to be patient with him since, after all, he still thinks ho-

easy laughter at the anti-Catholic antics of various gay groups. Maybe it's time to praise GOP leaders for the small distance they've traveled rather than chide them ceaselessly for the long way they have yet to go. Maybe it's time to call your father and tell him you love him even if he doesn't understand you.

These acts carry a moral authority that towers above the instinct to lash out. They shame the opposition, exposing it as small. They characterize a people who know that old scores will never be fully settled, and that the attempt will only delay the desired end. They reveal us more truly moral than the ones who have lashed us to fences and damned us to hell in the name of morality. They put us on top, not looking down, but looking forward. ▼

Dale Carpenter, an attorney, can be reached care of this publication or at OutRight@ aol.com. For more OutRight, visit www.Planetout.com.

COLAGE is looking for teen, adult facilitators

by Katie Szymanski

Interested in facilitating a San Francisco support group? Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE) is starting five new Bay Area support and activity groups for middle school students, teens, and adults with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) families and is seeking teen and adult group coordinators and facilitators.

If you are the child of an LGBT family, are familiar with the issues in LGBT families, have group leadership experience, and enjoy working with kids and teens, this is the project for you.

Join COLAGE at a group facilitator meeting this Sunday, November 21, at 4 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street at Valencia. RSVP to Jude Koski at (415) 861-5437. ▼

SF Weekly scrutinizes Ammiano coverage

compiled by GLAAD

In the November 10 *SF (San Francisco) Weekly*, editor John Mecklin deftly addresses a troubling pattern of media stereotyping in the coverage of the upcoming December 14 runoff election between incumbent San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown and openly gay Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano.

Ammiano's second-place finish (with 25 percent of the vote) culminated a vigorous, eleventh-hour write-in campaign that made headlines across the nation. Mecklin's focus, however, is on San Francisco-area coverage that seems to be playing up Ammiano's sexual orientation as a way to trivialize his candidacy. Drawing a parallel to the papers' coverage of Mayor Brown, Mecklin adroitly asks if the *San Francisco Examiner* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*

would similarly tolerate treating race as an issue in the campaign. "Ammiano has been a major public figure here for years now," Mecklin observes. "(Y)et the local press seems to find it necessary to describe him as a gay former comedian in every daily election story, even though the same press finds it (quite properly) unnecessary to describe Brown as a black former lawyer."

Clearly, the residents of San Francisco deserve election coverage that deals with the candidates' positions on policy and city administration – not innuendo and excessive emphasis on sexual orientation. Please thank *SF Weekly* for its conscientious, responsible monitoring of the media coverage surrounding this important election.

Contact John Mecklin, Editor,

SF Weekly, 185 Berry Street, Suite 3800, San Francisco, CA 94107, e-mail: jmecklin@sfweekly.com

Country music journal explores industry's last taboo

Doug Stevens, Alix Dobkin, Patrick Haggerty, Pamela Brandt. They and many others are part of the small, nearly invisible community of lesbian and gay artists in the country music industry. In the November issue of *Journal of Country Music*, editor Chris Dickinson traces the history of gay and lesbian artistry and activism in a genre that has historically been hostile toward same-sex couples and relationships.

Stevens – who writes for both

lesbian and gay audiences – notes that genre's very nature has worked to shut out the gay and lesbian community, and that as an out country artist, he felt obligated to create music with more inclusive themes. "(Country music) was about straight people, it was about men loving women and women loving men. And nothing really applied to us. We could identify with it, but I really wanted to have country music that was specifically about gay relationships." With the recent formation of the Lesbian & Gay Country Music Association, Stevens and others are actively challenging this exclusion. "At the heart of LGCMA beats one common belief," the LGCMA says. "That the emotional core of country music – with its evocative emphasis on loss, heartbreak, and the healing possibilities of love – belongs to anyone who finds comfort and expression in it."

The lengthy *Journal* article, which profiles both members of LGCMA and many of the lesbian and gay pioneers in the country music industry, gives long-overdue visibility to these overlooked members of the country music community. Please thank the *Journal of Country Music* for this

comprehensive, breakthrough feature.

Contact Ms. Chris Dickinson, Editor, *Journal of Country Music*, 4 Music Square East, Nashville, TN 37203, e-mail: jcmeditor@aol.com. ▼

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Gay youths speak out, get taped by GLSEN

by Marv. Shaw

Famed international lesbian tennis star Martina Navratilova moderated a panel of young gay speakers at a GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Educational Network) conference in Atlanta last month that made abundantly clear the nasty – and sometimes even dangerous – atmosphere that teenage lesbians and gay boys must endure in high schools across the country today.

Their testimony was captured on video, and GLSEN is making that available now in a 13-minute tape called *I Just Want to Say*.

Locally, the GLSEN San Francisco/East Bay chapter is hosting a reception at its new Oakland office this Saturday, November 20. Kevin Jennings, GLSEN's executive director, will be the guest speaker. The event takes place from 5 to 7 p.m. at 436 14th Street, Suite 209, at the corner of 14th Street and Broadway. For more information, call (510) 338-0880.

At last month's Atlanta gathering, Navratilova stated that when she was growing up in her native Czechoslovakia, such anti-gay conduct was unknown and it should be like that in the U.S., where anyone should be accepted in any school and throughout society as equals. After she spoke, the young people addressed the audience.

The first speaker, a teenage boy from Kent, Washington, talked of not wanting to go to school because the harassment was so frequent and intense that his grades suffered. He was unable to sustain a scholastic average strong enough to get into the university of his choice and had to make do with a weaker two-year college.

A young woman from Los Angeles was a lesbian from early in her high school career, and when she was a junior, heterosexuals contrived to get her named homecoming queen – as a joke. She emphasized that while she was a top student, a poet, an athlete, and an artist, she could be known publicly only as a dyke.

A mother of another student described how her daughter would come home day after day, head hung low and showing deep depression. Psychiatrists have pointed out that such young people are four times more likely than

the average to commit suicide. A teacher cited the interventions she practiced in her classes and urged other educators to do the same. The interventions were mostly to stop the name calling, halting the hurling of the insulting term "faggot."

In addition to the video tape, GLSEN publishes a quarterly newsletter *Respect*, which works at "chronicling the fight to end anti-gay bias in America's schools." ▼

For more information about GLSEN, call or write Anne-Marie Rosché, development and membership committee coordinator, GLSEN, 121 West 27th Street, New York, N.Y. 10002. (212) 727-0135. The website is www.glsen.org.

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Over the Edge

by Jane Warner and Ron McGlashan

The Edge, 4149 18th Street, November 10, 8:54 p.m.: A man known for causing trouble at The Edge bar began yelling and screaming. When employees asked him to leave, he became violent, throwing bar stools and shoving customers. He punched and injured a responding officer and tackled her to the ground, saying, "I hate dyke cops." A group of people pulled the man off the officer, who subdued him with pepper spray and handcuffed him. More officers arrived to assist the injured officer in the arrest. Booked on three counts of felony assault with a weapon was Harry Buckland, 39. Buckland was taken to a nearby hospital for injuries incurred during the incident.

Outdoor dining

Safeway, 2020 Market Street, November 9, 6:45 p.m.: A man tied

his dog outside of Safeway and when he returned from shopping, found another man feeding his dog a sandwich. The dog owner told the man to stop feeding his dog, but the man refused, calling the dog owner a "fucking faggot." The owner hurriedly untied his dog and started to walk up Market Street.

The suspect followed, screaming homophobic obscenities and repeatedly throwing the sandwich at the dog. When they reached Tower Records on the 2200 block of Market Street, the suspect maced the man with his pepper spray, also spraying the dog. Security personnel at Tower intervened and called the police. Responding officers were unable to locate the suspect. The man and the dog were treated by paramedics. The suspect is described as a white

male, 70-75 years old, 5 feet 5 inches tall, weighing 160 pounds, wearing a red shirt with dark pants, last seen walking eastbound on Market Street.

Copied fortune

Wash House, 681 14th Street, November 8, 12 noon: The owner of the laundry facility reported losing over \$150 in quarters after an unknown suspect used counterfeit \$20 and \$5 bills in the facility's change machine.

The bills had been photocopied and all had the same serial numbers, L6336607F and J79832782A. If you come across any of these phony bills, call the police department at (415) 553-0123.

Never lost it

Church and Market, November 6, 9:15 a.m.: A man reported he was the victim of an unprovoked

attack in which a suspect grabbed his arm and threw him to the ground, saying, "You got it now?"

Suspect is male, unknown race, 6 feet tall, 20-25 years old, wearing a white jacket with red stripes.

Bike napped

Tower Records, 2280 Market Street, November 9, 10:30 p.m.: A man who left his motorcycle parked outside of Tower Records for only five minutes returned to find it stolen. Taken was a black FXR Harley Davidson, California

license 14T0935. Suspect is unknown. ▼

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Two arrested in gay pastor's murder

by Katie Szymanski

Sacramento police announced on Tuesday, November 16 that two suspects have been apprehended in the murder of the Reverend Ed Sheriff, the gay pastor from Sacramento who was found stabbed to death in his home last month.

Frederick Clark, 37, was arrested last Thursday, November 11 and charged with homicide, robbery, and burglary. Police said an anonymous tip led to Clark's arrest, and they immediately issued a warrant for a second suspect, Tio Sessoms. Sessoms turned himself in on Tuesday, November 16, in Oklahoma.

Sheriff, 68, was the pastor of the Cathedral of Promise Metropolitan Community Church in Sacramento, where he also ran a food bank and a thrift store to assist the hungry and homeless. He was found stabbed to death in his home on October 20. Both of his cars were stolen after the killing and have since been recovered.

Police have said that because robbery was involved in the incident, there is no indication that the murder was a hate crime. Sheriff, however, had already seen his church vandalized twice, which included an arson that burned the church to the ground. Police said they are not yet sure whether Sheriff knew his alleged killers. ▼

of his half-billion dollar fortune. He spent \$35 million in a failed 1996 presidential bid. Forbes was questioned recently about his thoughts on gay rights, and fell back on age-old campaign rhetoric by saying, "I believe in equal rights for all and special rights for none." When asked how he felt about his own father, the late **Malcolm Forbes**, who was thought to be either bisexual or a closeted gay, Forbes replied: "I'll just say this, if I die and my children feel about me the way my siblings felt about our own father, I'll die a happy man."

A lot of grumbling among longtime residents about the scaled-back New Year's Eve celebration in San Francisco. One well-known elected official, upon hearing of the canceled Golden Gate Bridge fireworks show and the canceled celebration in Civic Center snapped, "A religious peace celebration and poetry reading doesn't make for much of a party by the city that knows how it does it?"

And how was your week? ▼



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Research by the California Lavender Smokefree Project shows that gays and lesbians are more likely to smoke than straights. In fact, 35-50 percent of gay men over 18 smoke, compared to 27 percent of men overall; and 25-40 percent of lesbians smoke, in contrast to 22.5 percent of women overall.

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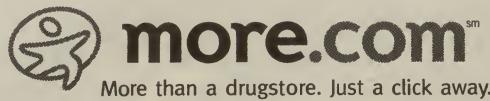
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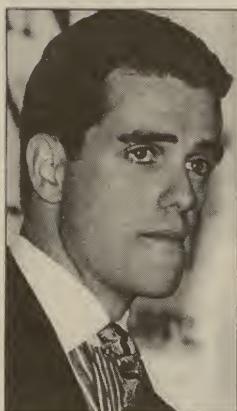


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Steve May

Bob Rehr

by Bob Roehr

The face-off between "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) and Arizona legislator Steve May intensified when the Army formally notified May that they had completed their investigation for violation of the policy. The November 5 letter offered May the opportunity to rebut the presumption that he engages in homosexual acts, though it did not formally charge him with engaging in such acts.

May, who represents an east Phoenix district in the state Leg-

islature, acknowledged that he was gay during past elections and in February during chamber debate on anti-gay legislation. It played prominently in the Arizona media.

He had served on active duty in the Army and retired as a lieutenant. Part of a continued obligation was to remain in the Army Reserve on "inactive" status for several more years, subject to call up to "active" reserve status or even full-time duty. The lieutenant was called back to service when bombs began falling in Kosovo. In April, he began serving as a "weekend warrior," training

with a local reserve unit one weekend a month and for two weeks in the summer.

On August 7, after receiving a letter questioning how May could serve under DADT, the Army began its investigation. "How much longer will we degrade our military readiness by discharging competent, qualified, trained men and women?" May asked at a Manhattan news conference at the end of August. "This policy must come to an end."

In September Representatives Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts) and Tom Campbell (R-California) circulated a letter among their

colleagues asking President Clinton to call off the investigation. It raised the new argument that elected officials should be protected under the "speech and debate clause" of the Constitution.

The letter garnered about 130 signatures, Frank said in a telephone interview on November 16. "It was the usual suspects, those of us who have been against the policy all along." He had hoped that with May being a Republican, and with the focus on the speech issue, that it might attract more Republicans. But only six signed on.

Log Cabin's Kevin Ivers said that many Republicans saw this approach as "trying to carve out a

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Pride theme picked, open house on Sunday

by Katie Szymanski

Proving once again that heterosexuals are good for something, "It's About Freedom" is the theme for next year's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender pride festivities, an idea sparked by a straight woman's comment from a newscast at this year's event.

Board members chose the theme at a retreat and submitted it to the membership for a vote. The members overwhelmingly supported it over the other ideas submitted by the public. Pride Committee board President Calvin Gipson told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the theme "really speaks to the needs of everyone fighting for rights, such as the right to marry, and the right to serve in the military."

"When you think about it, Pride began as a day of freedom," said Gipson, "So we're being a little retro."

To celebrate the theme and entice would-be volunteers, the San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Celebration Committee, Inc., will "throw its doors open" at a holiday open house this Sunday, November 21, from 4 to 6 p.m.

The informal gathering will feature light refreshments, and will seek to recruit volunteers for the accessibility, design, donations, hospitality, medical, and safety committees.

"We hope to have a good turn out at the open house for those who would like to lend their hearts and talent to our 30th anniversary event," said Gipson.

The Pride Committee is also seeking ideas from the public for a logo design. The deadline for submitting ideas is Tuesday, November 30, and the winner will receive \$500. The logo should fit with the "It's About Freedom" theme, as it will be displayed in advertisements and parade publications. ▼

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Creating Change

◀ page 1

the convention center at around 6 p.m., conference participants left their workshops and filled the lobby and lined the balconies to listen to several speakers. Kerry Lobel, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), which puts on Creating Change, said, "We as a community know all too well what it is like for people to hate us, what it is like to face discrimination, for our youth to be targeted, for our elderly and disabled to be ignored ... that's why we march."

Yosenio Lewis, president of FTM International, called for a moment of silence to remember transgender brothers and sisters and all who have suffered from discrimination and violence.

Roosevelt Mosby, executive director of the Sexual Minority Alliance of Alameda County (SMAAC), spoke to the crowd. "It's about black, gay people in the city of Oakland." Initially, it was reported that the victim was leaving a SMAAC gathering, but Mosby told the Bay Area Reporter that the victim did not attend the group's event.

Over half of the conference participants then began a spirited but peaceful march to the Oakland police administration building four blocks away, marching in the street for about a block before the station at Broadway and 7th streets. The crowd chanted, "Two, four, six, eight, Jerry Brown should stop the hate," in reference to Oakland's mayor, San Francisco police Sergeant Stefan Thorne, a female-to-male transgendered person, led the march along with Lobel, GenderPAC Executive Director Riki Anne Wilkins, and other transgender and East Bay activists.

At police headquarters, several more speakers described the early morning incident and demanded an end to mistreatment of transgendered people. Said Marquis Chatman, a witness to the assault, "They hurt her because she was who she was."

Vicki Kolakowski, co-chair of the Bay Area Transgender Law Association (and a contributor for the Bay Area Reporter) said, "Here in Oakland we have a long history of violence against transgendered people," and remembered Ernest "Ernestine" Murray, Carmen Marie Montoya, and James Percy Rivers, who were "murdered right



LGBT activists en route to Oakland Police Department Saturday.

Jane Philomen Cleland

here in Oakland." She said that the police often don't solve these crimes, and that "too often the victims are dismissed." But Kolakowski emphasized that the problem was not unique to Oakland, saying "this is a problem in the whole Bay Area, and I'm willing to bet it's a problem in every city in the country." She said that the community has fought hard for hate crimes laws that include transgendered people, but asked, "what good are these laws if we cannot trust the police to enforce them?"

Lewis again spoke, noting that although one officer on the scene mistreated the transgendered woman who was assaulted, "the paramedics and two other police officers did their job and represented Oakland well." He also praised the bystanders who "rushed to the victim's aid" and the witnesses who took the time to report the incident.

"We are people who deserve justice, we are not paperwork," Lobel said at the station, as the crowd picked up on the "we are not paperwork" phrase and repeated it after Lobel's comments. "This is an institution to serve and protect us, they are not here to judge us," she added.

Dana Rivers, a transgendered

woman who is fighting to keep her job as a Sacramento area high school teacher as she undergoes her transition, also spoke, demanding "basic human rights for people like us," and "equal protection from the people I pay with my taxes." GenderPAC's Wilkins said that while she deplored what took place in the early morning hours, she was pleased that so many of the conference participants had turned out for the rally, saying, "You are all here on tired feet because you finally understand that gender rights are human rights."

Pete King, chief executive officer of East Bay Pride, Inc., met with transgender advocates and they came up with a list of four demands of the Oakland Police Department. First, they asked for a meeting with Police Chief Richard Word to address the community's concerns. The group also demanded a full investigation of the officer involved and sensitivity training for all members of the department. Finally, advocates asked for a permanent liaison between the police department and the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community.

Police Lieutenant Eric Breshears was one of several officers standing outside the station during the rally. He addressed the crowd, saying that "every person in the city of Oakland should be treated with respect without regard to their gender or race." Although he had not heard of the incident until just before the rally and could not comment on specific details, Breshears invited any witnesses to the incident to immediately make a statement to the police. Creating Change staff and members of the local host committee supported and assisted several witnesses in filing their statements. Organizers of the action have contacted Community United Against Violence (CUAV) to follow-up on the incident, and a local ad hoc group is being formed in Oakland to deal with issues of violence and police accountability.

According to Stephanie Berger, local media coordinator for Creating Change, early this week Brown and Word agreed to all the organizers' demands. They said that a sensitivity program is already in place, a community liaison will be appointed, an investigation of the officer has started, and a meeting with community representatives is now being scheduled. ▼

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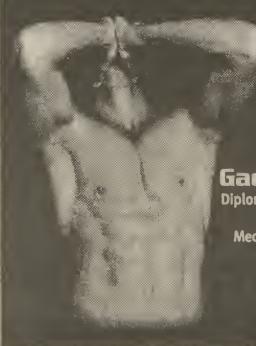
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Conference challenges language, identity

by Katie Szymanski

Are you still a lesbian when your female lover transitions? Why is the h-word (heterosexual) not used in discussions that allegedly include straight-identified transgender people? Would a greater fluidity of gender eliminate the need for labels entirely? There were no concrete answers to these questions, posed during various gender and identity workshops at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's (NGLTF) 12th annual Creating Change conference in Oakland last weekend. But most in attendance agreed that our vocabulary still does not accommodate the different identities within the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) movement.

On Thursday, November 11, everything from assimilation to classism was blamed for the desire to put people into "little boxes" that don't always fit. The daylong workshop — billed as the "Sex and Gender Liberation Institute" — explored various genders and erotic identities in an attempt to challenge what we refer to as LGBT dialogue and politics.

Some said that subconsciously modeling our lives after traditional heterosexuality was behind the need to find some sort of fixed identifier. As a result, all of our identities may not be welcomed if they don't somehow contradict or mirror heterosexuality, as one person described.

"I am gay and transgender, but at many LGBT forums I am told not to identify as both," he said, "because it is too complex."

Like many heterosexuals, it seems, many in the LGBT community cannot grasp the concept that gender and sexuality are not one in the same. And while the transgender label has allowed more of an insight, it still does not speak for every transgender person.

Rosalyn Blumenstein, a transgender woman who spoke at the workshop, emphasized that heterosexuality was often left out of the conversation as well.

"Hang-ups I did not have when I got involved in the movement have become a part of my daily life," said Blumenstein, noting the "gay" blanket that covers most of the dialogue. "To be identified as something that is not part of my identity is confusing and oppressive. There needs to be a place for us heterosexuals."

Others participants said that the queer background from which the conversation made assumptions excluded those from environments where identifying is a luxury or not desirable at all. As a result, there needs to be a space in the movement for those who cannot or do not identify as LGBT but sleep with someone of the same sex or live differently gendered from how they were born.

"Not everyone wants to be a queer," said one participant. "But even those who don't identify as 'us' deserve a place in this conversation."

On Saturday, November 13, the theme continued with "Butch/FTM Dialogue: The Relationships." While the workshop itself focused on what happens

when a butch woman decides to transition from female to male (FTM), the issues raised were very much about identity and how language still fails in this area.

Speakers such as Loree Cook-Daniels drew attention to the fact that even LGBT people could be unwelcoming when a dyke couple suddenly becomes "traditional." Cook-Daniels acknowledged that she and her male partner Marcella — who was a lesbian when the two began their relationship — now enjoy a privilege they are somewhat uncomfortable with; for instance, their son, as far as classmates and teachers are concerned, has a mommy and a daddy and by all accounts is from a traditional home. But the couple also stressed that the transition was not easy in their circles within the LGBT community.

"I have been told I am now an ally," said Cook-Daniels, "but no longer a lesbian."

Cook-Daniels said that some partners of FTMs adopt a non-lesbian label to show support for their lover and acknowledge his manhood, while others may adopt a bisexual label based on acknowledging that if they are attracted to this man, they could potentially be attracted to others.

Still others remain identified as lesbian. All of these identities need to be honored, regardless of who the person loves.

"I assert my right to self-identify," said Cook-Daniels. "I have spent 20-some years as a lesbian, have made major achievements for lesbians, and have paid a price as a lesbian. I do not feel anyone has a right to say that honoring a commitment to a partner means I give up my right to lesbianism."

In this case, according to Cook-Daniels, language has already made a step toward accommodation, in women who identify as "transensual" — lesbian women whose primary attraction is toward butch women or FTMs.

"The new term provides a space where one does not have to give up the lesbian identity," said Cook-Daniels.

Will language grow to accommodate all of the identities in the queer community, or will some identities remain nameless, even among insiders? The point of creating an inclusive language is to have representative conversations. And while some in the LGBT community may know better than to make narrow assumptions based on a label, expanding the vocabulary can only benefit us and those we still need to educate. ▼

Real change requires an expanded vision

by Katie Szymanski

When discussing lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) rights, it's easy to forget that the conversation is limited to a particular world. But there are many populations often not recognized in LGBT discussions, as some participants at the Creating Change conference pointed out last week.

Those most excluded from the strategies of change include people in prison, sex workers, people in the military, homeless people, and people of color. Whether members of the community are forgetting their histories or simply forgetting that organizing in itself is a privilege, there are LGBT people in various environments whose work goes unnoticed and whose lives are not part of the community's regular platform.

"As LGBT people we talk about our history not being documented," said two women of color during small-group workshops at Creating Change. "But for people of color, it's worse, because what's documented erases us."

Deletion of people of color can be found, for instance, in the Stonewall Rebellion story, often told as if the historic movement was started by white gay men, when it was drag queens of color who revolted against police in New York in 1969.

Author and activist Amber Hollibaugh told the Creating Change crowd that by ignoring others' contributions, people are selling the entire movement short of its potential.

"The best organizing around sexuality today is happening in prisons and in sex work," said Hollibaugh. "So why is it that I have to bring it up as if it is 'outside' the agenda?"

Hollibaugh noted that inclusion goes beyond simply inviting people to the table as representatives of oppressed groups.

"When they come, nobody wants to sit next to them," she said.

"They're not going to want to keep coming."

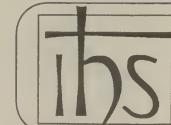
Outside of the workshops themselves, queer youth in attendance lamented that their youth-specific workshops had not once mentioned homelessness.

"When such a big part of the homeless are queer youth," one boy said, "why are we not talking about them as automatically as we are talking about us?"

Adopting more than one approach to change is not only effective, but necessary, for the entire LGBT movement. Not all environments are as conducive to organizing, and certainly not all cultures organize alike. Strategizing for rights can no longer assume LGBT people are all coming from a place where the same strategies will work.

One participant, noting that people in the military are also left out of traditional organizing techniques, summarized it best.

"If we're going to talk about queers," he said, "let's talk about queers everywhere." ▼



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No on Knight hits the streets in Oakland

Creating Change activists canvass 'hood

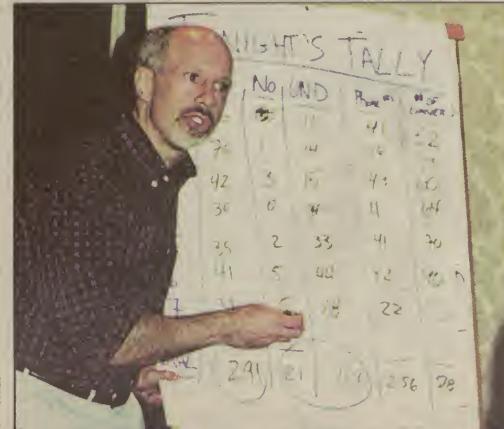
by Cynthia Laird

Activists and others attending last weekend's Creating Change conference took to the streets Friday, November 12, and canvassed Oakland neighborhoods in an effort to identify voters who are against the Knight initiative. Armed with voter registration sheets, flashlights, and their talking points, some 50 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people spent a Friday night getting some quick training and then they hit the pavement.

State voters will decide on the Knight initiative - Proposition 22 - in the March 7, 2000 primary election. Authored by homophobic state Senator Pete Knight (R-Palmdale), the 14-word ballot measure states that only marriage between one man and one woman is valid in the state. Currently, that is the case, so the initiative adds nothing to state law.

Staff with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), which hosted the 12th annual Creating Change conference, decided to add the door-to-door canvass to the conference schedule and it paid off. David Fleischer, with NGLTF's Policy Institute, announced that after the hour or so of knocking on prospective voters' doors, over 500 contacts had been made between the activists and residents. Of those, about 291 people indicated they would vote against the Knight initiative; about 21 said they would support the anti-gay ballot measure; and approximately 169 were undecided.

The canvassers were told to be "stingy" in rating their contacts; only a definite statement from a potential voter that they were



NGLTF's David Fleischer with the final tally sheet from Friday's canvass.

planning to vote against the Knight initiative rated a "Yes" on the tally sheet. "Can we count on you to vote 'No' on Knight?" was the key question asked of prospective voters.

Several groups of nine people spent about an hour getting familiar with the information on the Knight initiative and got a pep talk from Kerry Lobel, NGLTF's executive director.

"You are making history tonight," Lobel told the enthusiastic group. "This is the first time we've had such a canvass with people gathered in the same place to make change. When in March the Knight initiative is defeated, people will say the tide turned in Oakland, California."

Added Fleischer, "Make sure that voters understand they have a choice. They can stand with us or they can stand with bigots."

After the sheets were tallied, they were turned over to the No on Knight campaign, which had staff member Tracey Conaty on hand to help with providing information to the canvass participants.

Fleischer warned the precinct walkers that NGLTF couldn't guarantee what happened once they started knocking on doors, even though the precincts that were selected were determined to be "friendly," meaning residents would likely be receptive to hearing about gay issues. "We cannot ensure with precision what you will encounter," he said, adding that most people would probably be either against the initiative or undecided. He was right.

Paloma Avenue

The Bay Area Reporter tagged along with one group of canvassers that included Marvin Dunson III, who attends Boalt Law School; Jonathan Winters, of Oakland; John Spear, from the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network in New York; and Jesse Luzanilla, from San Diego.

After arriving at the drop-off point, Spear and Luzanilla took off in one direction, while Dunson and Winters headed up Paloma Avenue. Winters hit a home run at his first house, where a woman was preparing dinner, but took a few minutes to listen to him, and said she was voting against the initiative.

After a few darkened doorways, and an undecided voter or two, Winters arrived at another house where an elderly couple lived. "We don't believe in discrimination," the woman told Winters, adding that included gays. "I always say it's their business."

"I always vote," she added.

Meanwhile, Dunson was making his way up the hill across the street, and was also getting encouraging results. He and Winters finished the assigned houses on Paloma Avenue and then hit part of Mandana Boulevard.

At another house, a woman who had just moved from San Francisco answered the door. She had already registered to vote in Oakland and she was familiar with the Knight initiative. "I'm against it," the woman said, adding she will definitely vote no in March.

A couple of houses up the street, another woman answered the door, and she, too, had heard about the Knight initiative and planned to vote against it. "People don't do that neighborhood canvassing anymore," she told Winters, as he finished up his brief presentation and handed her a flyer with information on Proposition 22.

And so it went. Most of the people Winters talked with said they were undecided or against the initiative. No doors were slammed in his face, and no one was openly hostile to him. Part of the reason for that was the brief presentation; canvassers were told to keep their pitch to no more than three minutes at each house. Winters often kept his shorter.

Dunson fared about the same as Winters, although he reported one slammed door.

In the car on the way back to Creating Change, the men recounted their experiences, which were pretty positive overall.

"It was a lot easier than I thought it would be," Luzanilla said. The San Diego State University student is from San Francisco, and a member of the Xeta Chapter of Delta Lambda Phi, a national progressive men's fraternity.

"It went as I expected," Winters said.

"I didn't think I could do it," Spear stated, adding that by the 9 p.m. cutoff time, he didn't want to stop. ▼

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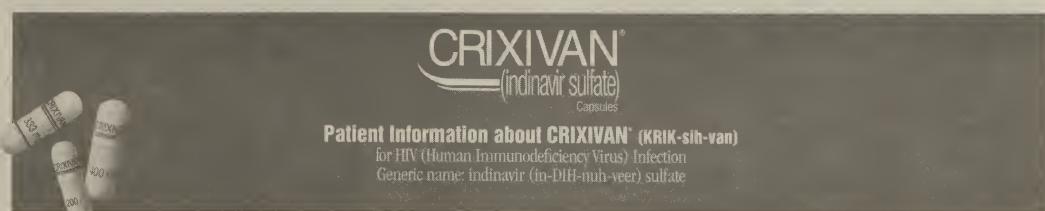
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2. Take CRIXIVAN capsules every 8 hours around the clock, **every day**. It may be easier to remember to take CRIXIVAN if you take it at the same time every day. If you have questions about when to take CRIXIVAN, your doctor or health care provider can help you decide what schedule works for you.
3. If you miss a dose by more than 2 hours, wait and then take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time. However, if you miss a dose by less than 2 hours, take your missed dose immediately. Then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of CRIXIVAN at any one time.
4. Take CRIXIVAN with water. You can also take CRIXIVAN with other beverages such as skim or non-fat milk, juice, coffee, or tea.
5. Ideally, take each dose of CRIXIVAN without food but with water at least one hour before or two hours after a meal. Or you can take CRIXIVAN with a light meal. Examples of light meals include:
 - dry toast with jelly, juice, and coffee (with skim or non-fat milk and sugar if you want)
 - corn flakes with skim or non-fat milk and sugar

Do not take CRIXIVAN at the same time as any meals that are high in calories, fat, and protein (for example — a bacon and egg breakfast). When taken at the same time as CRIXIVAN, these foods can interfere with CRIXIVAN being absorbed into your bloodstream and may lessen its effect.

6. It is critical that you drink at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) throughout the day, every day. CRIXIVAN can cause kidney stones. Having enough fluids in your body should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

Does CRIXIVAN cure HIV or AIDS?

CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking CRIXIVAN may still develop infections or other conditions associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important for you to remain under the care of a doctor. Although CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses, including death, associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

Does CRIXIVAN reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

CRIXIVAN has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or body contamination.

Who should not take CRIXIVAN?

Do not take CRIXIVAN if you have had a serious allergic reaction to CRIXIVAN or any of its components.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor if:

- You are pregnant or if you become pregnant while you are taking CRIXIVAN. We do not yet know how CRIXIVAN affects pregnant women or their developing babies.
- You are breast-feeding. You should stop breast-feeding if you are taking CRIXIVAN.

Also talk to your doctor if you have:

- Problems with your liver, especially if you have mild or moderate liver disease caused by cirrhosis.
- Problems with your kidneys.
- Diabetes
- Hemophilia
- High cholesterol and you are taking cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins."

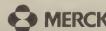
Tell your doctor about any medicines you are taking or plan to take, including non-prescription medicines.

This medication is prescribed for a particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep CRIXIVAN and all medicines out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

This provides a summary of information about CRIXIVAN. If you have any questions or concerns about either CRIXIVAN or HIV, talk to your doctor.

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Can CRIXIVAN be taken with other medications?**

Drugs you should not take with CRIXIVAN:

SELDANE® (terfenadine)	HISMANAL® (astemizole)
VERSED® (midazolam)	HALCION® (triazolam)
PROPUROL® (cisapride)	Ergot medications (e.g., Wigraine® and Cafergot®)
Taking CRIXIVAN with the above medications could result in serious or life-threatening problems (such as irregular heartbeat or excessive sleepiness).	
In addition, you should not take CRIXIVAN with rifampin, known as RIFADIN®, RIFAMATE®, RIFATER®, or RIMACTANE®.	

Drugs you can take with CRIXIVAN include:

RETROVIR® (zidovudine, ZDV also called AZT)	BIAxin® (clarithromycin)
TAGAMET® (cimetidine)	isoniazid (INH)
DIFLUCAN® (fluconazole)	ORTHO-NOVUM 1/35® (oral contraceptive)
EPIVIR® (lamivudine, 3TC)	ZERTI® (stavudine, d4T)
BACTRIM®/SEPTRA® (trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole)	
VIDEX® (didanosine, ddI) — If you take CRIXIVAN with VIDEX®, take them at least one hour apart.	
MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin) — If you take CRIXIVAN with MYCOBUTIN®, your doctor may adjust both the dose of MYCOBUTIN and the dose of CRIXIVAN.	
NIZORAL® (ketocazole) — If you take CRIXIVAN with NIZORAL®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.	

Talk to your doctor about any medications you are taking.

What are the possible side effects of CRIXIVAN?

Like all prescription drugs, CRIXIVAN can cause side effects. The following is not a complete list of side effects reported with CRIXIVAN when taken either alone or with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this page alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN developed kidney stones. In some of these patients this led to more severe kidney problems, including kidney failure or inflammation of the kidneys. Drinking at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) each day should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine. Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had rapid breakdown of red blood cells (hemolytic anemia) which in some cases was severe or resulted in death.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had liver problems including liver failure and death. Some patients had other illnesses or were taking other drugs. It is uncertain if CRIXIVAN caused these liver problems.

Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors. In some of these patients, this led to ketoacidosis, a serious condition caused by poorly controlled blood sugar. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients required adjustments to their diabetes medication. Others needed new diabetes medication.

In some patients with hemophilia, increased bleeding has been reported.

Severe muscle pain and weakness have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors, including CRIXIVAN, together with some of the cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins." Call your doctor if you develop severe muscle pain or weakness.

Clinical Studies

Increases in bilirubin (one laboratory test of liver function) have been reported in approximately 10% of patients. Usually, this finding has not been associated with liver problems. However, on rare occasions, a person may develop yellowing of the skin and/or eyes.

Side effects occurring in 2% or more of patients included: abdominal pain, fatigue or weakness, flank pain, feeling unwell, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, acid regurgitation, loss of appetite, dry mouth, back pain, headache, trouble sleeping, dizziness, taste changes, rash, upper respiratory infection, dry skin, and sore throat.

Swollen kidneys due to blocked urine flow occurred rarely.

Marketing Experience

Other side effects reported since CRIXIVAN has been marketed include: allergic reactions; severe skin reactions; abdominal swelling; inflammation of the pancreas; increased fat appearing in areas such as the neck, breasts, abdomen, and back; change in skin color; hair loss; ingrown toenails with or without infection; crystals in the urine; and numbness of the mouth.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual symptoms. If the condition persists or worsens, seek medical attention.

How should I store CRIXIVAN capsules?

- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules in the bottle they came in and at room temperature (59°F-86°F).
- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules dry by leaving the small desiccant "pillow" in the bottle. Keep the bottle closed.



CRIXIVAN®
(indinavir sulfate)
Capsules

Gay activists meet with AOL

by Liz Highleyman

At a meeting last Tuesday, November 9, representatives from lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) groups met with Internet service provider America Online (AOL) to discuss issues of concern to the queer community. The meeting included representatives of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Discrimination (GLAAD), the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), and PlanetOut, a gay online service affiliated with AOL.

AOL came under fire last month for deleting the member profile of a gay member in Texas because it contained the words "submissive bottom." Profiles are used by members to present a brief description of themselves and to find others who share similar interests. The user contacted the Fort Worth chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), and the online advocacy groups HateWatch and NationalGayLobby.org also became involved as word of the incident spread over the Internet. This was not the first time that AOL has been the target of queer

ire for banning sexually explicit content while allowing anti-gay epitaphs and other forms of hate speech to stand.

AOL officials allegedly told the member that his profile violated the company's terms of service (TOS), which state in part, "it is essential that [content] reflects our community standards, and we may remove it if, in our best judgment, it does not meet those standards." The company says it does not screen profiles, but rather relies on complaints from other users to filter out content that might be considered objectionable.

Subsequent investigations have left many wondering just what kind of community standards AOL is trying to promote. A survey in early November by Internet consulting firm Wired Strategies revealed a large number of objectionable profiles, including over 80 that referred to "fags" in insulting or threatening terms. AOL uses software to filter out certain racial slurs, but not anti-gay content or content derogatory to religious groups. According to Fort Worth ACLU President Frank Provasek, "We're concerned that there is a double standard being applied to gay members of AOL." AOL spokesman Rich D'Amato

said that the company does not discriminate and attempts to be "even-handed and fair" when dealing with issues concerning objectionable content.

In San Francisco, queer activists held a rally on the steps of City Hall on October 25, during which they burned AOL subscription disks and CDs to protest the service's recent actions. At the rally, Jeff Sheehy, of Equal Benefits Advocates, said, "If you're going to censor, the first goal should be to censor hate and violence... sex never hurt anyone."

The November 9 meeting was reportedly scheduled months ago and was not called specifically to address the recent complaints from queer members, although Will Doherty, director of online community development for GLAAD, stated in advance that his group would bring up the issue. AOL angered some gay advocates by refusing to provide an agenda or a list of invited participants prior to the meeting. NationalGayLobby.org originally called for a boycott of AOL and its advertising.

ers to begin on Monday, November 15, but the organization's president, Jayce Fortwangler, later announced that the group was "immediately terminating its involvement" in the AOL issue because they had not been invited to participate in the meeting and felt that the LGBT organizations that were invited were not dealing with the larger community in an open manner.

Although neither AOL nor the participants have been particularly forthcoming about what transpired during the meeting, GLAAD Executive Director Joan Garry did say that a key AOL representative was very responsive to concerns raised by her organization and that AOL "brought the right people to the table." D'Amato summed up the meeting by saying, "The gay community is important to us, and we want to make sure they feel welcome." However, there was reportedly only a brief discussion of AOL's TOS at the four-hour-plus meeting, and AOL has so far failed to respond to a request from



"Anita Boycott" burns AOL disks on the steps of City Hall last month to protest the Internet service provider's censorship of gay member profiles.

GLAAD, Wired Strategies, HateWatch, and PlanetOut to schedule another meeting specifically to address the issue of censorship and discrimination. According to David Goldman, president of HateWatch, the group will be waiting and watching to see what actions AOL takes over the next few weeks. ▼



From left, Sharon Staley, of Bristol Myers Squibb, joined TARC staffers Tom Calvanese, Leigh McFaddin, and Paul Causey.

AIDS drug maker funds HIV testing, treatment

by Terry Beswick

Sometimes, it's hard enough for anyone to get to all their appointments.

If you're homeless, it can be nearly impossible. Life is an unstructured search for food, clothing, and shelter. It's about surviving the day.

Earlier this month, Bristol Myers Squibb, manufacturer of AIDS drugs ddI and d4T, gave San Francisco's Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center (TARC) \$35,000. The money is being used to triple the size of the group's HIV testing and treatment education programs.

"It has allowed us to offer HIV antibody testing and results on demand to a population that has trouble keeping appointments," said Paul Causey, TARC's executive director.

HIV testing and counseling will now be available on a drop-in basis for homeless people at high risk for HIV infection 30 hours each week at TARC's storefront operation at 187 Golden Gate Avenue. And for those newly infected with HIV, TARC will provide treatment advocacy counseling at the Tom Waddell Health Clinic on Ivy Street.

Founded in 1990, TARC has become a focal point for AIDS and HIV prevention information, referral, and service coordination in the Tenderloin and South of

Market neighborhoods. Now working with an \$800,000 annual budget, its workers and volunteers also provide testing, prevention education, and safe sex supplies in local parks, residential hotels, on street corners, and at the TARC late night drop-in center.

TARC began offering HIV antibody testing in 1998 with \$3,500 from the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

Pharmaceuticals have supported HIV testing and early intervention programs for many years, and Causey had no qualms about taking money from a maker of AIDS drugs for funding of a treatment education program.

"Bristol Myers was very blunt about why they were doing this - to get people into treatment quicker," he said, adding that no particular drug will be promoted to TARC's clients. "That's really everyone's goal, to make sure that people have the information to make a decision."

The TARC program is designed to link HIV test counseling with treatment advocacy, Causey emphasized, to ensure that homeless people testing positive have immediate access to supportive and potentially life-saving information and services. ▼

For more information about TARC's services, call (415) 431-7476.

MEN'S ASSOCIATED EXCHANGE

TGIF

Sponsored by
Tanqueray
Malacca
Gin.

The Bay Area's
Largest Gay
Happy Hour

THANK GOODNESS IT'S FRIDAY

November 19, 6-9 pm

155 Sansome Street (between Bush & Pine) ♦ 10th Floor

Are you tired of the typical bar crowd? Are you looking for a way to meet some new friends? If so, then MAX's TGIF is perfect for you. Held the first and third Friday of each month in a fabulous art deco club in the old Stock Exchange, TGIF attracts nearly 400 gay men after work to see friends, make new acquaintances, and jump-start the weekend. TGIF is also a great place to learn more about other MAX activities held this month. If you live in the South or East Bay, then join us for our TGIF in Sunnyvale on the second Friday or Walnut Creek on the fourth Friday of each month. There is a \$5 cover for non-members.

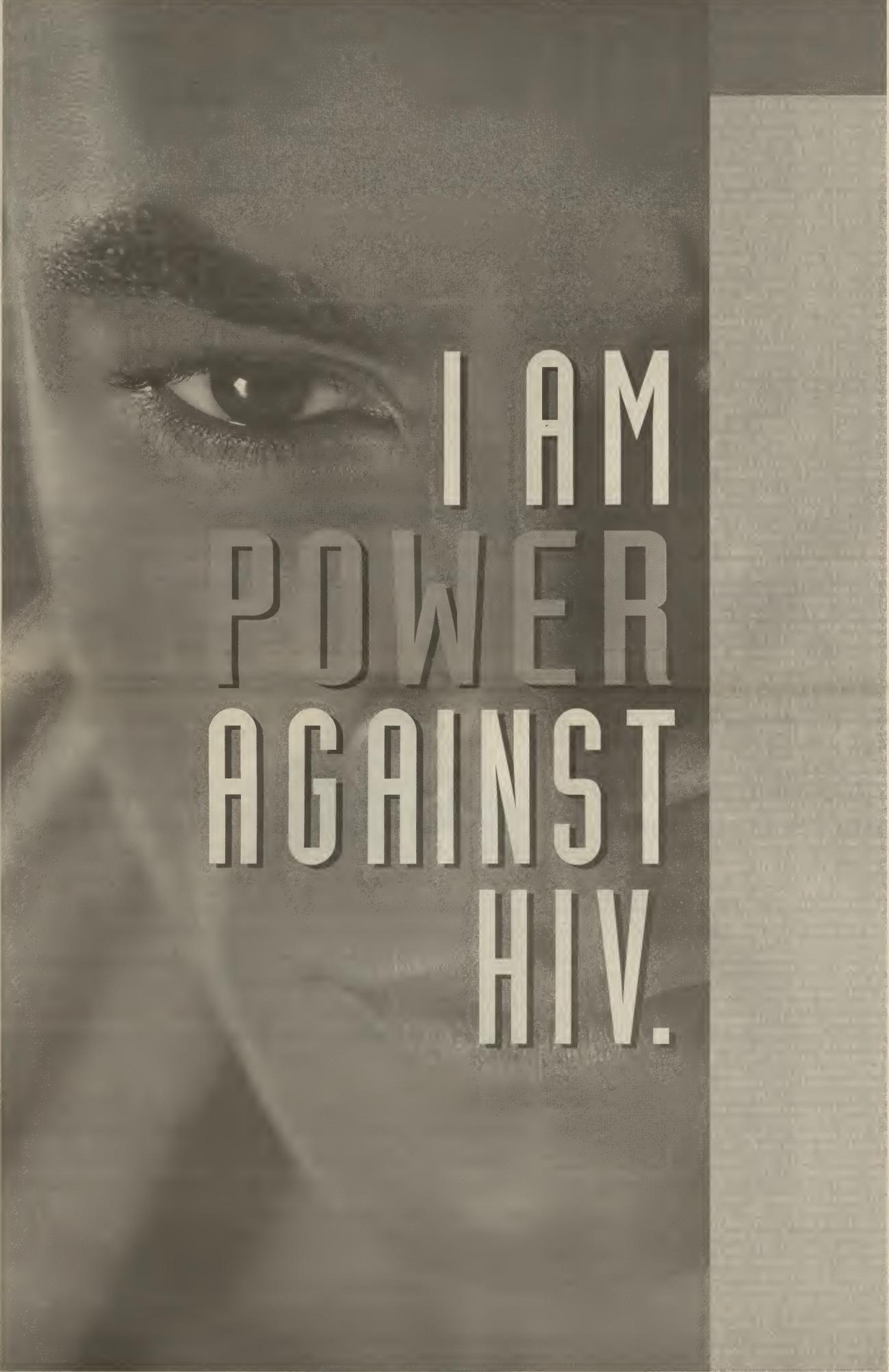
4th Friday (11/26) MAXEast TGIF at the Marriott in Walnut Creek

Men's Associated Exchange (MAX) is the Bay Area's largest social organization for gay men, with more than 800 members. Every month, MAX stages 12-15 events, drawing more than 1,500 men. From sports and travel to parties and arts and entertainment, MAX has something for everyone. Call 415-359-9200 for a free newsletter and more information or visit MAXonline.



MEN'S ASSOCIATED EXCHANGE

WWW.MAXONLINE.ORG



I AM
POWER
AGAINST
HIV.

Talk to your healthcare professional about ZIAGEN. Or call 1-888-TALK-2-GW (1-888-825-5249).

I am

ziagenTM
abacavir sulfate 300 mg tablets

I drive down viral load.

Most people who took ZIAGEN with two other nucleoside analogues as their first combination regimen achieved undetectable viral load through 16 weeks.* ZIAGEN does not cure HIV infection/AIDS or prevent passing HIV to others. It's not known whether taking ZIAGEN will slow the progress of HIV disease or help you live longer.

I am two pills a day, with or without food

The easy dosing of ZIAGEN—just one tablet in the morning and one at night, with or without food—simplifies your combination therapy.

I give you treatment options

ZIAGEN is powerful enough to achieve undetectable viral load when used in initial combination therapy*—for example, ZIAGEN + COMBIVIR® (lamivudine 150 mg/zidovudine 300 mg) Tablets—and may preserve future treatment options. ZIAGEN can be effective in patients who have used anti-HIV drugs before, but the effects are less.

Important safety information

About 5% of patients (5 in 100) who take ZIAGEN have a hypersensitivity reaction (a serious allergic reaction) that may result in death. IF YOU HAVE SKIN RASH OR TWO OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING SETS OF SYMPTOMS, STOP TAKING ZIAGEN AND CALL YOUR DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY: fever, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal pain, severe tiredness, achiness, or generally ill feeling. A written list of these symptoms is on the Warning Card and Medication Guide provided by your pharmacist. You should carry the Warning Card with you.

If you must stop treatment with ZIAGEN because you have had this serious reaction, NEVER TAKE ZIAGEN

AGAIN. If you take ZIAGEN again after you have had this serious reaction, WITHIN HOURS you may experience LIFE-THREATENING symptoms that may include LOWERING OF YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE OR DEATH.

A buildup of lactic acid and an enlarged liver, including fatal cases, have been reported rarely with HIV drugs of this type.

Most side effects were mild to moderate; the most common side effects were nausea, vomiting, malaise or fatigue, headache, diarrhea, and loss of appetite. Most of these side effects did not cause people to stop taking ZIAGEN.

*71% (62/87) of patients taking ZIAGEN with lamivudine + zidovudine in this clinical trial had viral load undetectable below 400 copies/mL using the Roche Amplicor HIV-1 MONITOR® Test.

Please see important information for ZIAGEN and COMBIVIR on adjacent pages.

 **Glaxo Wellcome**
HIV
A division of Glaxo Wellcome Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Web site: www.gw.com

www.ZIAGEN.com

MEDICATION GUIDE**ZIAGEN™ (z-EYE-uh-jen) (abacavir sulfate) Tablets and Oral Solution**

Established name: abacavir (uh-BACK-ah-veer) sulfate tablets and oral solution

In order to take Ziagen safely, you should read all of the information in this Medication Guide each time you fill your prescription for Ziagen.

What is the most important information I should know about Ziagen?

About 5% of patients (5 in 100) who take Ziagen have a hypersensitivity reaction (a serious allergic reaction) **that may result in death**. If you have **skin rash** or two or more of the following sets of symptoms, you may be having this kind of reaction:

- **fever**
- **nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal pain**
- **severe tiredness, achiness, or generally ill feeling**

A written list of these symptoms is on the Warning Card provided by your pharmacist. You should carry this Warning Card with you. **IF YOU NOTICE THESE SYMPTOMS WHILE TAKING ZIAGEN, STOP TAKING ZIAGEN AND CALL YOUR DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY.** If you must stop treatment with Ziagen because you have had this serious reaction, **NEVER TAKE ZIAGEN AGAIN**. If you take Ziagen again after you have had this serious reaction, **WITHIN HOURS** you may experience **LIFE-THREATENING** symptoms that may include **LOWERING OF YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE OR DEATH**.

Ziagen can have other serious side effects. Be sure to read "What are the possible side effects of Ziagen?" in the section to the right.

What is Ziagen?

Ziagen is a medication used to treat HIV infection. Ziagen is taken by mouth as a tablet or a strawberry-banana flavored liquid. It belongs to a class of anti-HIV medicines called nucleoside analogue reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs). Ziagen is only proven to work when taken in combination with other anti-HIV medications. When used in combination with these other medications, Ziagen helps lower the amount of HIV found in your blood and keep your immune system as healthy as possible so that it can help fight infection. However, Ziagen does not have these effects in all patients.

Ziagen does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. At this time, there is no evidence that Ziagen will help you live longer or have fewer of the medical problems that are associated with HIV infection or AIDS. Because of this, you must be sure to be seen regularly by your health care provider.

Who should not take Ziagen?

Do not take Ziagen if you have ever had a hypersensitivity reaction (a serious allergic reaction) to Ziagen. In such cases, you should return all of your unused Ziagen to your doctor or pharmacist for proper disposal.

How should I take Ziagen?

Take Ziagen exactly as your doctor prescribes it.

The usual dosage for adults (at least 16 years of age) is one 300-mg tablet twice a day.

Adolescents and children from 3 months to 16 years of age can also take Ziagen™ (abacavir sulfate) Tablets and Oral Solution. Your doctor will tell you if the oral solution or tablet is best for your child.

Also, your child's doctor will decide the right dose based on your child's weight and age. Ziagen has not been studied in children under 3 months of age.

Ziagen can be taken with food or on an empty stomach.

To help make sure that your anti-HIV therapy is as effective as it can be, be very careful to take all of your medication exactly as your doctor prescribed it and do not skip any doses.

If you miss a dose of Ziagen, take the missed dose immediately. Then, take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time.

When your supply of Ziagen and other anti-HIV drugs starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. It is very important that you take anti-HIV drugs as prescribed by your doctor because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if one or more of the drugs is stopped, even for a short time.

What should I avoid while taking Ziagen?

Ziagen has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Continue to practice safe sex while using Ziagen. Do not use or share dirty needles.

Talk to your doctor if you are pregnant or if you become pregnant while taking Ziagen. Ziagen has not been studied in pregnant women and the risk to the unborn child is not known.

Mothers with HIV should not breastfeed their infants because HIV in the breast milk can be passed to the infant.

What are the possible or reasonably likely side effects of Ziagen?

Some people have had a hypersensitivity reaction (a serious allergic reaction) to Ziagen, which can be fatal. Instructions on how to recognize a possible reaction, as well as what to do if such a reaction is suspected, are discussed in the section "What is the most important information I should know about Ziagen?"

The class of medicines to which Ziagen belongs (NRTIs) can cause a condition called lactic acidosis, together with an enlarged liver. In some cases, this condition can be fatal. Women are more likely than men to experience this rare but serious side effect.

Ziagen can cause other side effects. In studies, the most common side effects with Ziagen were nausea, vomiting, malaise or fatigue, headache, diarrhea, and loss of appetite. Most of these side effects did not cause people to stop taking Ziagen. This listing of side effects is not complete. Your doctor or pharmacist can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects with Ziagen. Talk to your doctor promptly about any side effects you have.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Ask a health care professional about any concerns about Ziagen. Professional labeling is available to your doctor and other health care professionals. If you want more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist to let you read the professional labeling.

GlaxoWellcome

Glaxo Wellcome Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

December 1998 MG - 001
This Medication Guide has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration.

**Patient Information about
COMBIVIR® (lamivudine 150 mg/zidovudine 300 mg) Tablets**

for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection
Generic name: lamivudine/zidovudine tablets

Please read this information before you start taking COMBIVIR (pronounced KOM-bi-veer). Staying informed will help you to work more closely with your doctor and healthcare team to determine what is best for you. Remember, this information does not take the place of careful discussion with your healthcare provider. You should remain under a doctor's care when using COMBIVIR and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your healthcare provider.

What is COMBIVIR?

COMBIVIR is the brand name of a tablet that combines EPIVIR® Tablets (lamivudine tablets) [3TC®] and RETROVIR® (zidovudine) Tablets [AZT], two drugs which are used to treat HIV (human immunodeficiency virus). HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome).

How does COMBIVIR work?

COMBIVIR is a combination of lamivudine (la-MIV-u-deen) and zidovudine (zi-DOHV-u-deen), two medicines (nucleoside analogues) that slow down the replication of the HIV virus. This can reduce the virus' ability to infect new cells. It may help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 (T) cell count. Lamivudine plus zidovudine when used together can have stronger (synergistic) effects against the virus. COMBIVIR is a convenient way of taking lamivudine and zidovudine. COMBIVIR should usually be taken with other anti-HIV therapy.

Will COMBIVIR work the same as EPIVIR and RETROVIR taken together?

Yes, taking one COMBIVIR Tablet twice a day is the same as taking one EPIVIR 150 mg Tablet twice a day and either two RETROVIR 100 mg Capsules three times a day or one RETROVIR 300 mg Tablet twice a day.

How should I take COMBIVIR?

Take COMBIVIR as your doctor prescribes it. The recommended dose is one COMBIVIR Tablet orally two times a day, with or without food. To help make sure you will benefit from COMBIVIR, you must not skip doses or take "drug holidays."

What should I do if I miss a dose of COMBIVIR?

If you miss a dose by more than 4 hours, wait and then take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time. However, if you miss a dose by less than 4 hours, take your missed dose immediately. Then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of COMBIVIR at any one time.

Does COMBIVIR cure HIV infection or AIDS?

No, there is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. People taking COMBIVIR may still develop infections or other illnesses associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important to remain under the care of a healthcare provider. Use of lamivudine plus zidovudine has been shown to help patients with HIV infection stay healthy and live longer.

Does COMBIVIR reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

No, COMBIVIR, as well as other HIV medications, has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Who should not take COMBIVIR?

You should not take COMBIVIR if you have had a serious allergic reaction to either lamivudine or zidovudine.

Do not take COMBIVIR at the same time as EPIVIR or RETROVIR because they also contain lamivudine and zidovudine.

Individual dosing with EPIVIR plus RETROVIR, rather than COMBIVIR, should be considered for:

- A child under 12 years of age.
- A patient who weighs less than 110 pounds.
- Anyone who requires dosage adjustments due to drug side effects or poor kidney function.

What medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my healthcare provider?

Talk to your healthcare provider if:

- You are pregnant or if you become pregnant while taking COMBIVIR (lamivudine 150 mg/zidovudine 300 mg) Tablets. Ask your doctor about enrolling you in the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: 1-800-258-4263.
- You are breastfeeding. Mothers infected with HIV should not breastfeed their infants because HIV is present in breast milk.

Also talk to your doctor about:

- Problems with your blood counts.
- Problems with your muscles.
- Problems with your kidneys.
- Problems with your liver, especially if you have mild or moderate liver disease, such as hepatitis.

Can COMBIVIR be taken with other medications?

Yes, COMBIVIR can be taken with most medications, including most anti-HIV drugs. Be sure to tell your healthcare provider about all medications, over-the-counter or prescription, that you are taking.

What are the possible side effects of COMBIVIR?

Do not rely on this summary alone for information about side effects. Your healthcare provider can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects that may be relevant to you.

The safety of COMBIVIR is not expected to be different from the safety of EPIVIR and RETROVIR given separately.

In clinical studies of lamivudine plus zidovudine, side effects occurring in 5% or more of patients included: muscle and joint pain, headache, nausea, weakness and fatigue, nasal symptoms, cough, diarrhea, nausea and vomiting, neuropathy, trouble sleeping, fever or chills, loss of appetite, dizziness, abdominal pain or cramps, depression, skin rashes, and indigestion.

It's important to know that serious side effects can occur with COMBIVIR, such as a decrease in red and white blood cells and muscle damage. A buildup of lactic acid and an enlarged liver, including fatal cases, have been reported rarely with some HIV drugs, including nucleoside analogues.

For HIV-infected individuals, periodic blood tests are recommended. If certain changes occur in your laboratory results while you are taking COMBIVIR, particularly if you become anemic or if your white blood cell count falls too low, your medication may need to be adjusted; your doctor may prescribe EPIVIR plus RETROVIR separately in place of COMBIVIR.

Tell your doctor promptly about any side effects or other unusual symptoms you may experience.

Other Information

This medication is prescribed for a particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep COMBIVIR and all medicines out of the reach of children.

Like most prescription drugs, lamivudine and zidovudine were required to be tested on animals before they were allowed for human use. In animal studies with doses much higher than those used in humans, zidovudine was associated with vaginal tumors. Your healthcare provider can tell you more about how drugs are tested on animals and what the results of these tests may mean about safety for you.

How should I store COMBIVIR Tablets?

COMBIVIR Tablets may be stored at room temperature and do not require refrigeration.

This provides a summary of information about COMBIVIR. If you have any questions or concerns about COMBIVIR or HIV, talk to your healthcare provider.



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Treating AIDS metabolic side effects

by Matt Sharp, ACT UP/
Golden Gate Writers Pool

One critical issue in the current state of AIDS is the compounding metabolic complications experienced by people with HIV. The metabolic syndrome is multi-dimensional and is being reported as elevations of certain blood fats, known as triglycerides and cholesterol, and resistance to insulin being produced in the body, which can cause diabetes. Other problems are weird body fat redistribution, known as trunk obesity, breast enlargement in women, and buffalo hump on the upper back of the neck. And, peripheral fat "wasting" in the arms, legs, and face are also being seen. While the syndrome(s) was first thought to be related to protease inhibitors, there is more evidence showing that it may be caused by other HIV drugs and possibly a combination of the disease itself and/or immune system dysfunction. Still, even though the answers to the metabolic complications are coming slowly, the need for treatment is becoming a foreboding problem.

A group of metabolic experts recently met in Washington D.C. to sort out the various issues: what the causes may be, critical research questions and a badly needed treatment discussion. The Forum for Collaborative HIV Research has met three times to strategize about the metabolic problems, previously referred to as "lipodystrophy". Sponsored by George Washington University in D.C., the forum is an independent public-private partnership facil-

tating meetings and collaboration between researchers, patients, and the pharmaceutical industry to help answer some of the befuddling complications seen today in HIV. Metabolic problems are only one area of focus for the forum. Last week, the important issue of how to treat some of the metabolic issues was added to the agenda at the meeting due to pressure from ACT UP/Golden Gate. A full report of the meeting will be published in two weeks.

Metabolic issues are incredibly complex. With each year new findings only bring more questions. Many of the mechanisms behind how we process our nutrients and the way we study them are seriously problematic in HIV because there are many holes in the understanding of the cause of the syndrome. Indeed, the forum has had difficulty coming up with a clear definition because there are so many different, overlapping syndromes. Sorting out the definition and the cause has been the focus for metabolic researchers but people with HIV are begging for treatments today that they are already using.

Of more concern is that some of the complications may be life-threatening, such as cardiovascular disease and lactic acidosis, a fatal build-up of lactic acid in the body. Because of the scare, people with HIV are also deciding to stop their therapies whether the drugs are successful or not, or are even reluctant to start them at all. So, the obvious need for treatment of the complications outweighs the bantering of researchers who often have their own problems in designing trials and getting the

funding needed to run expensive studies.

Treatment

Some treatments for the lowering of lipids are being used with some effect even though interactions with HIV drugs may still pose a problem. The "statin" and "fibrate" class of drugs such as as pravastatin, atorvastatin, and gemfibrozil are being researched with some good results in lowering elevated triglyceride and cho-

sterol levels. Pravastatin is showing to be safer in terms of HIV drug interactions.

Metformin is being studied in reversing insulin resistance. Interestingly, studies are showing a side effect of metformin is loss of visceral fat (the fat showing up in the belly in people with HIV), and unfortunately, lactic acid build up. This is a serious problem that will have to be monitored in studies before metformin can be safely used to treat insulin resistance.

Progress is being made with human growth hormone for reducing trunk fat and buffalo hump. There is more evidence from the Kotler studies in New York that the drug will be a formidable agent in reduction of visceral fat, but mostly the studies have been small and there are inherent access problems. (Recently, Serostim, Serono's recombinant human growth hormone was added to the California AIDS

page 31 ▶



ACT UP

AIDS activist Tony Leone dies

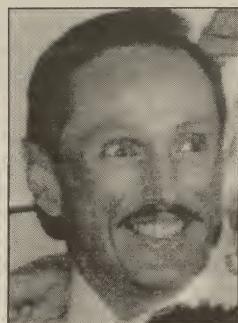
by Cynthia Laird

Tony Leone, a registered nurse and a leader in the fight against AIDS, died Saturday, November 6, at Laguna Honda Hospital in San Francisco of complications from the disease. He was 47.

Leone had been very much in favor of Proposition A, the Laguna Honda Hospital bond measure, and was thrilled when city residents overwhelmingly approved the ballot measure on November 2. He felt Laguna Honda Hospital was the place he wanted to be when he went "upstairs" as he fondly put it, according to his long-time friend, Frederick Hobson.

Leone served on the city's HIV Health Services Planning Council, which allocates federal Ryan White CARE Act funds for San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin counties. Leone challenged the planning council to closely examine "case management" after he was unable to get help after returning from a hospital stay.

"For the two years I've been on the council, he has been tireless,"



Tony Leone

es Association, and a former board member and co-founder of the San Francisco Health Plan. He was a past vice president of the Harvey Milk Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Democratic Club and past AIDS action director of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club. Leone was a member of ACT UP/Golden Gate and was twice elected to the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee.

In addition to his duties on the planning council, Leone, a registered parliamentarian, provided his expert knowledge of meeting rules to the HIV Prevention Planning Council.

Leone was born in Detroit, Michigan on May 30, 1949. He is survived by his brother Dave Leone, and Dave's fiancée Alma Vicente of Los Angeles; and by his beloved toy poodle, Lucky.

A memorial service is scheduled for this Sunday, November 21, at 2 p.m., Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco, 150 Eureka Street. Memorial gifts can be made to the National AIDS Memorial Grove, 856 Stanyan Street, San Francisco, CA 94117. ▼

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OBITUARY POLICY

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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ads obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Frank Janton



On November 1, 1999, Frank Janton died unexpectedly of a massive heart attack. Frank and his long-time partner, Jim Nunes, were at home, having spent a quiet, pleasant day together.

Frank was born in Philadelphia on

November 8, 1936. In 1960, after leaving the Army, Frank passed through San Francisco, was seduced by the City, and stayed. Within months, he met and moved in with Jim. Theirs was a partnership that would last 39 years.

The contributions Frank made to the community are many. For years, Frank was active in ACT UP Golden Gate. He brought many of the advocacy and organizing skills he learned to the Board of SF PFLAG. Frank also volunteered as an intern at Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center, where he worked to provide access to cutting-edge treatments for HIV-positive clients.

Frank was known for his humor, his generosity, his sparkling blue eyes. He was a true joy to know, to work with, and to love. Frank will be missed by all of us who counted ourselves among his friends and family, including his sister Betty.

Jim is planning a party to celebrate Frank's life in early January.

Elish P. Lewis

Elish P. Lewis passed away in November on November 10, 1999 at age 88. She gave of herself throughout her life with energy and Irish humor. Born in Whitegate, County Cork, Ireland on March 10, 1911 as Ellis Dunne, she moved to San Francisco in 1928 and was a resident here for 70 years. She reared her three children alone in the City. When she was 35 years of age she joined the Graphic Arts Union and became a bookbinder. She remained a proud

member of the union throughout her life. After her retirement, she became a popular personal caregiver for elderly patients.

Ms. Lewis was a member of AA in San Francisco for 23 years. She worked tirelessly with and for the AA community. She was a particular loving friend to members of the gay groups in AA as well as the gay community at large. She was a beloved volunteer who worked for the AIDS ward 5A at S.F. General and other organizations until her own health declined.

Elish is survived by daughter Charlotte Lewis-Noda of Novato. Her son Bill Lewis of San Jose and daughter Patt Casalnuovo of Daly City preceded her in death. She is the adored "Grandma Honey" to 10 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. Nieces and nephews throughout the U.S. and Ireland mourn her passing. We will miss her ready Irish wit, her sharp tongue, her kindness and ability to serve endlessly with a smile. Following her wishes, her body was willed to UCSF for scientific research, so that others may eventually be able to live.

A memorial service will be held to honor her life at Trinity Episcopal Church Meeting Room, 1688 Bush (near Gough) on Saturday, November 20, 1999 at 5 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions to Senior Access Alzheimer's Care Center, 1905 Novato Blvd., Novato, CA 94947, where she found friendship and comfort in her later years, or the AA Central Office, 1540 Market, Suite 150, SF, CA 94102. Please come join us in the celebration of her life.



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Medical pot IDs

◀ page 1

of people who do not get a card. Justmann is executive director of the SF Patient's Resource Center, a medical marijuana dispensary on Divisadero Street. "My suggestion would be that they always carry their letter of diagnosis with them."

Supervisor Mark Leno was joined by District Attorney Terence Hallinan, Health Director Dr. Mitch Katz, and medical marijuana providers at a November 5 press conference to roll out the proposal, which Leno termed a "pioneering next step along the frontier of providing compassionate, medically appropriate marijuana."

"This program makes it easy for law enforcement to distinguish between legitimate and non-legitimate users."

— Terence Hallinan

The supervisor said he has worked for months with what he called "the four P's" – patients, physicians, providers, and police – to craft the new ID system, modeled on programs underway in Oakland, Arcata, and Mendocino County. Leno does not expect opposition to his plan from fellow board members; if approved the proposal could be in effect by the end of the year.

The legitimate and the illegitimate

"This program makes it easy for law enforcement to distinguish between legitimate and non-legitimate users," said Hallinan. "I am proud that San Francisco leads the nation in terms of accessibility to medical marijuana."

Local law enforcement agencies have been faced with a quandary since the 1996 passage of Proposition 215, the statewide initiative which legalized use of medical marijuana with the recommendation of a physician. The law has not prevented police from busting marijuana growers and users, it has merely provided growers and users with a legal defense to use in court.

sponsored by state Senator John Vasconcellos (D-San Jose), was withdrawn from consideration at the close of this year's legislative session when law enforcement groups, led by Attorney General Bill Lockyer, attempted to make participation in the system mandatory for medical marijuana users. It may be taken up again next year.

Although the local IDs will not include the user's name and address – much to the chagrin of the police department – they will show their picture, as well as their identification number from their California driver's license, their California ID card, or their United States passport.

Written applications will be taken by the health department, but will be destroyed within one week, according to the draft legislation.

"The health department will do everything possible to protect the confidentiality of patients and providers," said Katz, adding that he has treated many patients who have benefited from medical marijuana.

Despite the endorsement from the main purveyors of medical

marijuana in San Francisco, some activists are opposed to any ID card system, partly out of concern for potential abuse by state or federal law enforcement agencies. "The inference is if you don't register, you're guilty," Dennis Peron, who co-authored Proposition 215, told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Follow the money

"It opens a Pandora's Box of bad ideas," added John Entwistle, a spokesman for Californians for Compassionate Use, which ran the Proposition 215 campaign. "They got a lot of cops and pot dealers who want it."

Meanwhile, a statewide ID card system under consideration in the California Legislature remains in play, though it is not clear how closely that proposal will resemble Leno's. The bill,

For example, ACT UP/San Francisco has 1,300 regular medical marijuana clients at their club at 1884 Market Street in San Francisco. The club opened for business in September 1998, just a few doors down from the planned Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center.

The group sells marijuana ranging from \$15 for four grams of "green Mexican" to \$65 for an eighth of an ounce of "super potent."

In its first year, ACT UP/San Francisco, which is not incorporated, brought in \$1,431,486 from marijuana sales alone, although their unaudited reports indicate that 67 percent of this – over \$950,000 – was spent on purchasing the drug wholesale from a variety of sources. Michael Bellefontaine, an ACT UP/SF spokesman, said that another 9 percent, or \$132,472, was redistributed to clients, in the form of free marijuana.

And about \$180,000, or 13 percent of the total gross income, was spent paying \$15 an hour to about 10 part- and full-time employees, all of whom are paid as independent contractors. No employee taxes are withheld.

"The IRS doesn't know how to deal with it," Bellefontaine said, adding that his group supports the city's proposed ID program. ▼

Wilde wilde west

by Jim Provenzano

You're trapped in a stall with one guy on your back and another wrapping a rope around your balls — if you still have them. The fence pops open. You get kicked. You've been pinched and poked all day and now, you've got metal spikes digging into your lungs on either side. It's showtime.

Think of this the next time you wolf down a Hot n' Chunky or a Double Cheese Everything as instant karma gets you via your arteries. I do, and somehow excuse myself of guilt by ordering chicken or turkey instead. They're smaller. Their pain must be, too.

Fiddle-dee. Tomorrow is another reincarnation.

How do people who rope and wrestle calves to the ground really feel about those beasts? How do the beasts feel when herded from trailer to ramp to truck from town to town? Do they sense the imminent passage of knowing that next time, they may be the ones plunking down 10 bucks for a dog, a beer and a souvenir program?

Enjoying the Grand National Rodeo at San Francisco's Cow Palace in the company of two affable men who, like me, thanks to the right haircut and used flannel shirts, can pass amongst those who might bristle at our interpretation of "Look at those shanks!", I actually felt comfortable sipping an adult beverage in the cavernous stadium where on previous occasions I'd



Whole lotta bull

bounced and bucked with herds of sweaty fans amid the noise of L7 and Nirvana, where in previous years thousands awed at the talents of Elvis, Stevie Nicks, and even scarier, Republican conventioneers.

This time the smells were earthier, the crowd more sedate, thicker and suede-ier, and the sounds much more nasal, thanks to the announcer's constant Country AM Radio throw-by-throw.

His familiar tone simultaneously humiliated and complimented the men who, once thrown from bucking broncos, retrieved hats, wiped off their pants and left us smiling at their bow-legged gait and well-packed denim. Among his factoids of this road show: rodeo is the sport with the highest multi-generational



Sports Complex

history, above car racing and hockey. It's a family thing.

So, are these bad men? Are mouths stained with chewing tobacco always the mouthpiece of hick bigotry? Was it naughty of us to marvel at these dudes who occasionally peeled off their shirts in the cowboy pit below our seats?

It is considered by some that forcing a steer to buck its rider off its back is cruelty. Gay rodeos are notorious for their compliance in harm reduction toward animals, offering a safer version, where the nastiest thing is humiliating a goat by donning it with a pair of unfashionable shorts.

But what of the lanky men dumb enough to ride atop an angry steer and risk spinal injury for our curious entertainment? Is there any safe way to perform such a foolish act? And how do they protect their nuts — if they still have them?

Peps squad

This is, of course, not just Man's Country. Some of best horsemen are women.

Peps Piper ruled the Reining Horse Championship. Her blond hair whisking in the breeze under a jet black Stetson as she racked up points for abruptly parking her horse to halts so sharp, even we gay amateurs of equine admiration were drawn to applause.

Barrel Racing was the segregated event of women, as were English events on other days. Why they don't perform the rougher events is as simple as the stubborn sexism of any tradition, and perhaps as constant as the chaw spit-in' of the sidelined cowboys.

Or maybe they know better. But most marvelous, in each

Book nook

Yours truly will be once again reading at A Different Light Bookstore 489 Castro Street, this time as part of the premiere of *Hey, Paisan! Writing by Lesbians & Gay Men of Italian Descent*, published by Three Guineas Press, and edited by Giovanna Capone, Denise Nico Leto and Tommi Avicoli Mecca, Sunday, November 21 at 3:30 p.m. Among the contributors are members of BASIL (Bay Area Sicilian-Italian Lesbians), and Tom DiMaria's interview with San Francisco mayoral candidate Tom Ammiano. ▼

Running for office

Speaking of gay people winning elections, SF FrontRunners' election for 2000 officers is this Sunday, November 21. For the first time in five years, two folks will run for each of the president, vice president, and secretarial positions. For more info: www.sfrunners.com, 584 Castro Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94114.

At the upcoming Team SF membership meeting Sunday, December 5, 3:45 p.m. at Eureka Valley Rec Center, election of new board members for 2000 will be followed by a presentation by the Bowling League on their successful Gay Games savings plan. They scrimped enough through a weekly savings program for all members to attend the Gay Games V, a good plan to get down under in '02. ▼

event, were the animals, particularly in the almost eerie Working Sheep Dog Finals. A hush came over the crowd (which included one rapt dog not competing), the only sound a piercing whistle that guided the small dogs, who crouched low, forcing the wayward sheep to move as a post-modern quintet of dancers; ushally in unison, with only an occasional stray.

As the sheep show dragged on, and strains of Pink Floyd's "Animals" wandered in my head, we felt a sympathetic urge — to shop. We perused the rows of authentic vests and "You're a Bad Cowboy, Go To My Room" T-shirts in the nearby showroom. It became clear that authenticity can be acquired along with fudge, Indian trinkets and a souvenir videotaped ride on the Gilley's bull-o-matic. Adding such a fix-

ture in a gay bar would surely raise more money than any barbecue, provided a time limit were secured.

Among the announcements was news of legislation in City Hall to do away with rodeo events at the Cow Palace, thus eliminating what was referred to as a "California tradition."

While logic and humanity toward gentle creatures overrides the sentiment toward such Americana, I couldn't help wondering how much further west one can push something so Western before it becomes mahi mahi. If City Hall wants to do away with cow events at the Cow Palace, because of the justifiable idea of preventing cruelty to animals, might they best start with Wendy's, McDonald's and Carl's Jr.?

Which is worse, cruelty served as spectacle, or as lunch? ▼

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Eric P., NYC

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SAFETY INFORMATION

- Make sure to see your doctor regularly because serious side effects can occur, such as muscle damage and a decrease in red and white blood cells
- Rarely, a buildup of acid in the blood and an enlarged liver, including fatal cases, have been seen
- The most frequent side effects are headache, upset stomach, malaise or fatigue, and runny nose

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Please see brief summary for Combivir on the following page.

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May 1999

**Patient Information about
COMBIVIR® (lamivudine 150 mg/zidovudine 300 mg) Tablets**

for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection
Generic name: lamivudine/zidovudine tablets

Please read this information before you start taking COMBIVIR (pronounced KOM-bi-veer). Staying informed will help you to work more closely with your doctor and healthcare team to determine what is best for you. Remember, this information does not take the place of careful discussion with your healthcare provider. You should remain under a doctor's care when using COMBIVIR and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your healthcare provider.

What is COMBIVIR?

COMBIVIR is the brand name of a tablet that combines EPIVIR® Tablets (lamivudine tablets) [3TC®] and RETROVIR® (zidovudine) Tablets [ZDV], two drugs which are used to treat HIV (human immunodeficiency virus). HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome).

How does COMBIVIR work?

COMBIVIR is a combination of lamivudine (la-MIV-u-deen) and zidovudine (zi-DOHV-u-deen), two medicines (nucleoside analogues) that slow down the replication of the HIV virus. This can reduce the virus' ability to infect new cells. It may help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 (T) cell count. Lamivudine plus zidovudine when used together can have stronger (synergistic) effects against the virus. COMBIVIR is a convenient way of taking lamivudine and zidovudine. COMBIVIR should usually be taken with other anti-HIV therapy.

Will COMBIVIR work the same as EPIVIR and RETROVIR taken together?

Yes, taking one COMBIVIR Tablet twice a day is the same as taking one EPIVIR 150 mg Tablet twice a day and either two RETROVIR 100 mg Capsules three times a day or one RETROVIR 300 mg Tablet twice a day.

How should I take COMBIVIR?

Take COMBIVIR as your doctor prescribes it. The recommended dose is one COMBIVIR Tablet orally two times a day, with or without food. To help make sure you will benefit from COMBIVIR, you must not skip doses or take "drug holidays."

What should I do if I miss a dose of COMBIVIR?

If you miss a dose by more than 4 hours, wait and then take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time. However, if you miss a dose by less than 4 hours, take your missed dose immediately. Then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of COMBIVIR at any one time.

Does COMBIVIR cure HIV infection or AIDS?

No, there is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. People taking COMBIVIR may still develop infections or other illnesses associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important to remain under the care of a healthcare provider. Use of lamivudine plus zidovudine has been shown to help patients with HIV infection stay healthy and live longer.

Does COMBIVIR reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

No, COMBIVIR, as well as other HIV medications, has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Who should not take COMBIVIR?

You should not take COMBIVIR if you have had a serious allergic reaction to either lamivudine or zidovudine.

Do not take COMBIVIR at the same time as EPIVIR or RETROVIR because they also contain lamivudine and zidovudine.

Individual dosing with EPIVIR plus RETROVIR, rather than COMBIVIR, should be considered for:

- A child under 12 years of age.
- A patient who weighs less than 110 pounds.
- Anyone who requires dosage adjustments due to drug side effects or poor kidney function.

What medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my healthcare provider?

Talk to your healthcare provider if:

■ You are pregnant or if you become pregnant while taking COMBIVIR® (lamivudine 150 mg/zidovudine 300 mg) Tablets. Ask your doctor about enrolling you in the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: 1-800-258-4263.

■ You are breastfeeding. Mothers infected with HIV should not breastfeed their infants because HIV is present in breast milk.

Also talk to your doctor about:

- Problems with your blood counts.
- Problems with your muscles.
- Problems with your kidneys.
- Problems with your liver, especially if you have mild or moderate liver disease, such as hepatitis.

Can COMBIVIR be taken with other medications?

Yes, COMBIVIR can be taken with most medications, including most anti-HIV drugs. Be sure to tell your healthcare provider about all medications, over-the-counter or prescription, that you are taking.

What are the possible side effects of COMBIVIR?

Do not rely on this summary alone for information about side effects. Your healthcare provider can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects that may be relevant to you.

The safety of COMBIVIR is not expected to be different from the safety of EPIVIR and RETROVIR given separately.

In clinical studies of lamivudine plus zidovudine, side effects occurring in 5% or more of patients included: muscle and joint pain, headache, nausea, weakness and fatigue, nasal symptoms, cough, diarrhea, nausea and vomiting, neuropathy, trouble sleeping, fever or chills, loss of appetite, dizziness, abdominal pain or cramps, depression, skin rashes, and indigestion.

It's important to know that serious side effects can occur with COMBIVIR, such as a decrease in red and white blood cells and muscle damage. A buildup of lactic acid and an enlarged liver, including fatal cases, have been reported rarely with some HIV drugs, including nucleoside analogues.

For HIV-infected individuals, periodic blood tests are recommended. If certain changes occur in your laboratory results while you are taking COMBIVIR, particularly if you become anemic or if your white blood cell count falls too low, your medication may need to be adjusted; your doctor may prescribe EPIVIR plus RETROVIR separately in place of COMBIVIR. Tell your doctor promptly about any side effects or other unusual symptoms you may experience.

Other Information

This medication is prescribed for a particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep COMBIVIR and all medicines out of the reach of children.

Like most prescription drugs, lamivudine and zidovudine were required to be tested on animals before they were allowed for human use. In animal studies with doses much higher than those used in humans, zidovudine was associated with vaginal tumors. Your healthcare provider can tell you more about how drugs are tested on animals and what the results of these tests may mean about safety for you.

How should I store COMBIVIR Tablets?

COMBIVIR Tablets may be stored at room temperature and do not require refrigeration.

This provides a summary of information about COMBIVIR. If you have any questions or concerns about COMBIVIR or HIV, talk to your healthcare provider.



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Marriage

◀ page 4

campaign filing statements, the Knight campaign has raised \$4 million dollars, compared to just \$1 million by No on Knight.

But Henning took umbrage with Marshall's assessment.

"In the process of gathering a million signatures and raising awareness outside the queer community about same-sex marriage, we will help to defeat the Knight initiative," said Henning.

"What we want is gay marriage. To folks who are ignorant of the community's history, that might be news to them," he said.

Tom Henning, 34, a public schoolteacher and former director of Stanford University's Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Community Center, is leading the effort in Northern California while his brother John, a

37-year-old attorney, is heading up the Southern California arm of the signature drive.

"We're really trying to change minds and hearts here," Tom Henning said.

Already, the Hennings said they have several hundred volunteers who have offered to circulate petitions, which they expect to have available within a few weeks, once the Secretary of State gives the initiative a title and approves the final text.

They plan to make heavy use of the Internet (www.samesex-marriage.org) to circulate petitions, gather signatures and get donations for their campaign.

Tom Henning said that domestic partnership is not enough. "Marriage is marriage and nothing else is," said Henning. "For a lot of people, especially the young, it's how you say who you love most of all." ▼

Steve May

◀ page 14

special consideration for public officials" without resolving the underlying problems of DADT. May had expressed similar reservations when he learned of the congressional letter. He clearly was hesitant about this "special right for a legislator." He wanted to keep the focus on the policy and not his individual situation.

"The legislative independence issue clearly didn't work out," Frank said. "If it had gotten 40-50 Republicans and close to 200 members it would have been different." He has heard nothing from the White House on the letter other than acknowledgment that they received it, and he does not expect to hear more.

May reacted to the latest escalation of the Army investigation by hiring a lawyer, Christopher Wolf, a partner in the Washington, D.C. office of Proskauer Rose LLP. The Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN) has been retained as expert consultants.

Dixon Osburn, SLDN's co-director, said that the Army has "indicated their intent to seek May's discharge without specifying what

any of the evidence is, or what the basis for discharge is. They simply sent a letter that said we are giving you an opportunity to rebut the evidence, that we are not telling you we have."

In a statement released by the law firm, May said, "I was elected to serve my constituents and recalled to serve my country in uniform, and I have done both to the best of my ability. The 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue' policy cannot be used by the Army to gag me in the performance of my official duty."

Wolf declared, DADT "does not permit the Army to become a censor in the state legislature ... We intend to challenge the Army on behalf of Mr. May, his constituents, and other reservists who may find themselves in similar circumstances."

Wolf is the attorney who successfully represented Chief Petty Officer Timothy McVeigh when the Navy tried to drum him out of the service. He also successfully represented the Cathedral of Hope when Chicago superstation WGN-TV reneged on a contract to broadcast a paid program on the church that serves a predominantly gay and lesbian fellowship in Dallas, Texas. ▼

ACT UP

◀ page 26

Drug Assistance Program formulary for wasting syndrome. Serono is working with community representatives and the Food and Drug Administration to begin studies for treatment of trunk obesity, but until the studies show positive results, coverage for growth hormone for reducing body fat is prohibitive.

Unfortunately, there is no progress for treatment of peripheral wasting. Treatments to increase fat lost in these areas is most problematic as the situation is not fully understood as a part of the syndrome. Researchers are still trying to figure out if the syndromes have anything to do with each other or if they are totally separate problems. There are whole sets of answers that bring forth disagreement and confusion among researchers.

Trials to ascertain which anti-retroviral drugs might be causing the complications have been completed, but clearly there is disagreement over the quality of the information in those studies. Studies looking at switching drugs to determine if one drug or class of drugs is responsible for one or more of the complications have not been confirmed. No one has been able to definitively prove, for

example, that stopping protease inhibitors and switching to a non-nucleoside drug will improve lipid abnormalities or body fat redistribution. While trying to pin the abnormalities on one drug or a certain class of drugs for would be a scientific gain, doing so will be difficult and will take large, longer trials that have to be carefully designed and controlled.

Overall, the frustration over metabolic research in HIV is a continuing problem and treatments remain illusive even though some gains are being made. But, meetings such as the Forum for Collaborative HIV Research can be useful in coordinating research efforts to sort out the various questions. In bringing different disciplines together at one table, i.e. experts in metabolism, virology, immunology, and nutrition, more concentration and focus can take place. Having industry there as a part of the solution and not the problem is key. A collaboration of this kind will also enable the pooling of resources for the funding of the expensive studies. And finally, listening to the treatment needs of people affected by this complex situation we find ourselves in at this point of the HIV epidemic will be the only way to understand critical answers to a most frightening deviation to the progress being made against HIV. ▼

ALRP toasts outgoing director

Jane Philomen Cleland

The AIDS Legal Referral Panel is losing its executive director, Irwin Keller, left, who announced his pending resignation at the organization's benefit last Thursday, November 11. Keller schmoozed his guests and attorneys who help people living with HIV/AIDS in San Francisco and the East Bay. Keller is part of the group Kinsey Sicks, and members are heading to New York for an open-ended, off-Broadway run in the spring.

Gay controversy at Catholic meeting

by Bob Roehr

The National Conference of Catholic Bishops meeting in Washington, D.C. was greeted by an ad placed by gays, lesbians, and their supporters in the November 19 issue of the *National Catholic Reporter*. It focused on the decision by the Vatican in July that "permanently prohibited" Sister Jeannine Gramick and Father Robert Nugent "from any pastoral work involving homosexual persons." The pair are longtime leaders in reconciling gays and the Catholic Church.

The ad called on the bishops "to exercise their collegial right and ask the Vatican to reconsider this decision." It urged them to

"lead by example" in establishing an "open dialogue with lesbian and gay Catholics." It was signed by 4,551 individuals and groups.

Galveston-Houston Bishop Joseph A. Fiorenza, president of the conference, issued a statement on November 15 reaffirming church policy "that homosexual activity is intrinsically disordered."

New Ways Ministry led the effort on placing the ad. Executive Director Frank DeBernardo hoped that the bishops would at least discuss the matter in executive session. "I know there are others who are dissatisfied with the decision," he said. "Whether they will speak up or not is another story."

"We felt that we had to make public the dissatisfaction so that

people would know that they were not alone, that others disagree with what the Vatican did, and that there are people who support the gay and lesbian ministry and gay and lesbian people."

DeBernardo was encouraged by the fact that the ad attracted more signatories than other controversial issues, such as ordination of women or allowing priests to marry, ever have. "That says something about where the folks in the pews are on gay and lesbian issues."

Charles Cox, executive director of the gay Catholic group Dignity USA, agreed with the latter assessment. His organization certainly is concerned with decisions of the church hierarchy "because it has an impact on us." ▼

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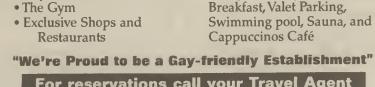
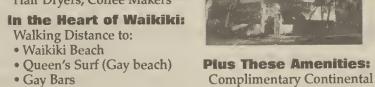
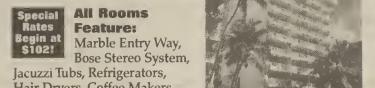
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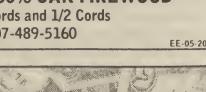
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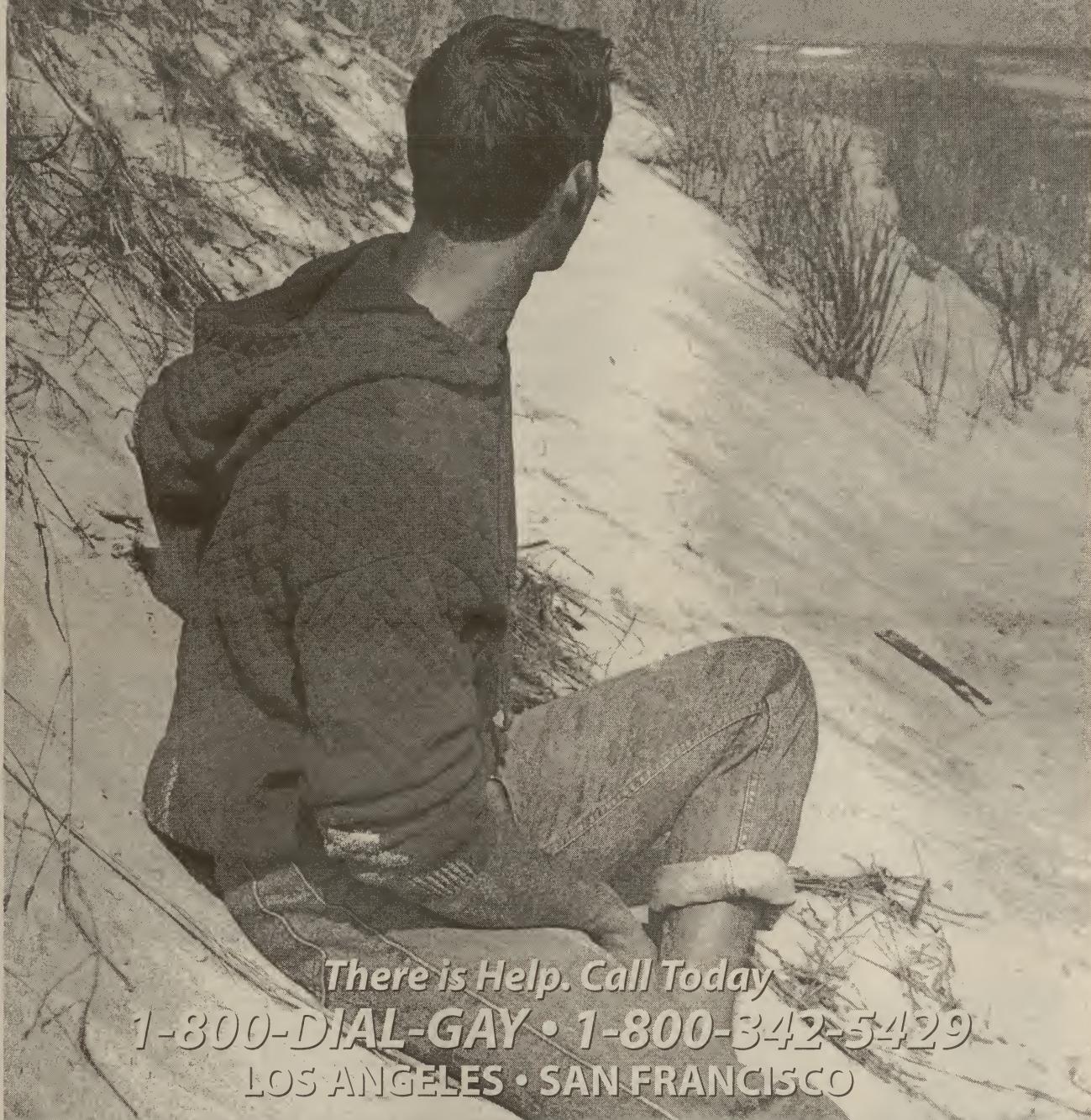
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Smooth operator

Grace Kelly is a 3-D vision in Hitchcock's 'Dial M for Murder' at the Castro Theatre.

page 45

Bad Brad

Mehldau indulges in minimalist noodling.

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**Radical radio**

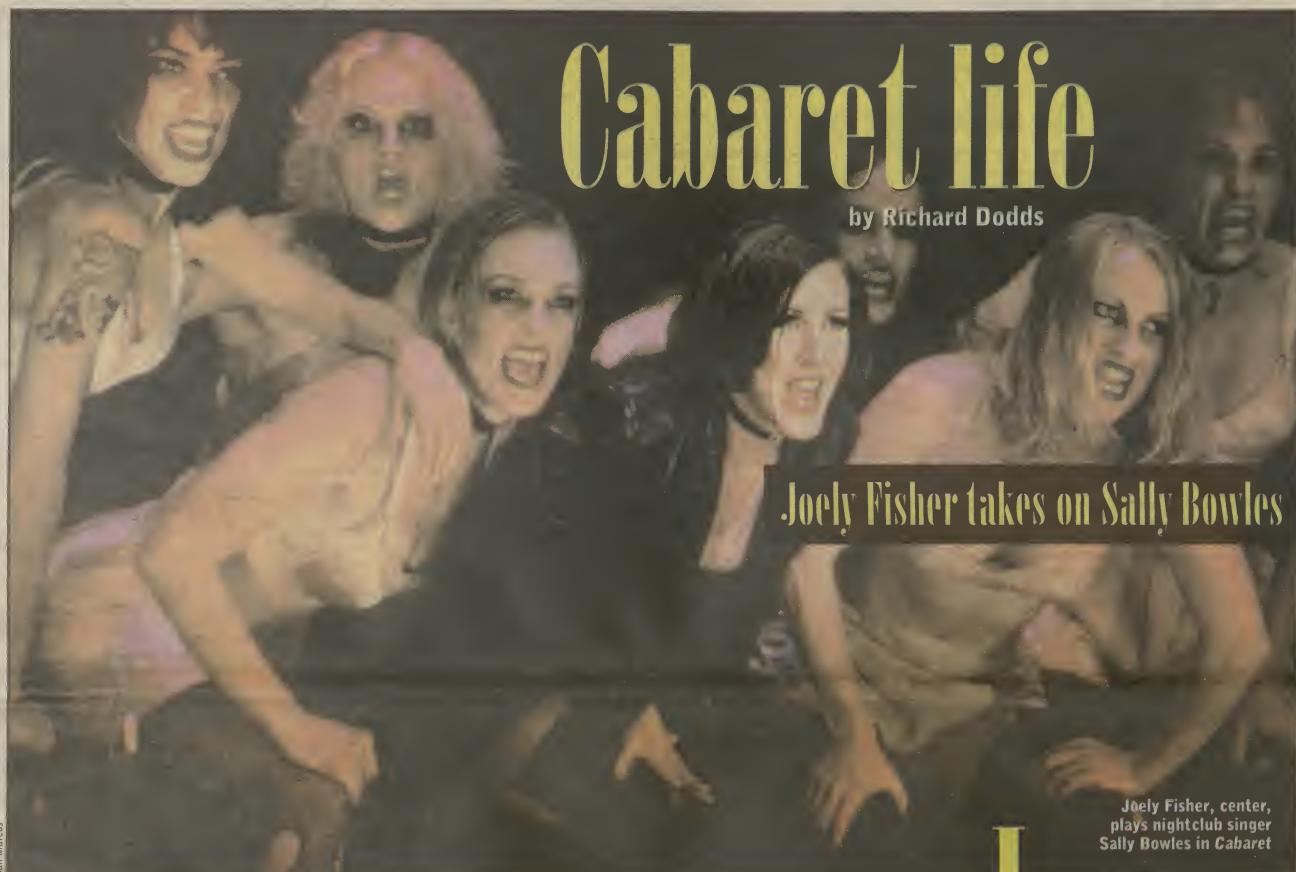
Ken McPherson hosts talk radio with a gay twist.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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Joan Marcus

Cabaret life

by Richard Dodds

Joely Fisher takes on Sally Bowles

Joely Fisher, center, plays nightclub singer Sally Bowles in *Cabaret*

Lawrence Pech Dance Company opens '99 season at Yerba Buena

Music makes them move

by Aimée Ts'ao

Wendy Van Dyke, Lawrence Pech, and Galina Alexandrova in Lawrence Pech's *Critters*

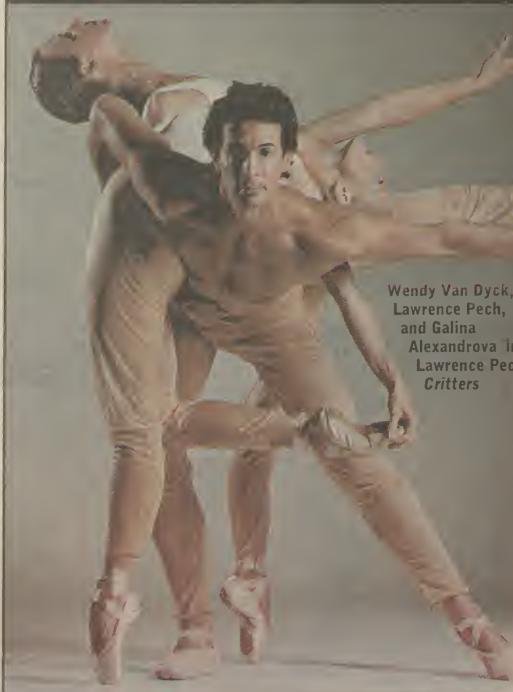
One of the reasons we work so well together is that we both have extensive classical music training," choreographer Lawrence Pech reveals about himself and his associate artistic director, Wendy Van Dyke. "Actually, it's her fault that I started the Lawrence Pech Dance Company."

Wendy Van Dyke explains, "We had danced together at San Francisco Ballet, where we had both been principal dancers and people had noted the similarity in our musicality. A few years later, when Larry was directing Diablo Ballet, he invited me to join, but I declined."

"The next season," Pech continues, "I left Diablo under difficult circumstances. I was devastated, completely depressed, and one day over lunch, I was commiserating with Wendy because she had just left San Francisco Ballet. Suddenly she said, 'Why don't you start your own company?' My first reaction was, 'No way. I can't do this any more!'"

"But," says Van Dyke, "the next day he called me

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Walter Scharf

I'm not a lesbian," Joely Fisher likes to tell people, "but I played with one on television." That lesbian, of course, was Ellen DeGeneres.

For five seasons, Fisher costarred as best-friend Paige on *Ellen*, a trailblazing sitcom that began as little more than *Laverne and Shirley*-style hijinks before raising the rainbow flag. Ironically, not long before she landed the role on *Ellen*, Fisher had a good shot at becoming a regular on *Touched by an Angel*.

"My career would have been very different," Fisher said, restating the obvious.

Indeed, it's hard to imagine that the producers of the down-and-dirty revival of *Cabaret* would have looked to the slushy *Touched by an Angel* to find their new Sally Bowles.

Fisher, 32, recently took over the role of the "divinely decadent" heroine in the touring production of the Broadway hit, which opens this week at the Curran Theatre in San Francisco.

"I love the women I've gotten to be so far at this very embryonic stage of my career," Fisher recently said by phone from Minneapolis. "As for this role, you must play if it's offered to you, because they don't come along like this very often. It's Hamlet, for lack of a better example, for women."

The character of Sally Bowles first appeared in Christopher Isherwood's *Berlin Stories*, a fictionalized account of the author's experiences in pre-war Germany. Sally, a singer in a seedy cabaret, is clearly not destined for stardom. "In this production, the song 'Cabaret' is not Liza Minnelli singing 'Cabaret,'" Fisher said. "It is a very different take on it."

Natasha Richardson created the role of

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artfull circle theatre presents

by Roberto Friedman
and Art Supplies

This turkey time of year is usually the start of the long march through the wretched if determinedly festive holiday season. Events tied to some variety of holiday entertainment start popping up on our radar screen, and we answer with a shudder. But this year we're tantalized with what seems a sudden glut of cultural opportunities.

Two art shows of local survey but great interest to us are opening on the same weekend: Yerba Buena Center for the Arts' *Bay Area Now 2* and, at the de Young Memorial Museum, *Museum Pieces: Bay Area Artists Consider the de Young*.

The Yerba Buena show is the much-anticipated follow-up to the 1997 *Bay Area Now*, which woke a lot of people up to the vibrant art culture going on right here. Curated by Renny Pritikin, René de Guzman and Arnold Kemp, the show promises visual excitements from artists of wildly divergent media and statement, but similar quality: Lutz Bacher, Tony Labat, Larry Sultan, Catherine Wagner, Rex Ray and Tino Rodriguez are among the talents on display. The picture

art critic Glen Helfand. The curator himself is the subject of a portrait by painter Caitlin Mitchell-Dayton (along with portraits of Museum Director Harry Parker and Chief Curator Steven Nash). Artists of the stature of conceptualists Tom Marioni and David Ireland join rising artists such as installationist Chris Johanson and sculptor Meg Mack in turning their attention to the processes and physical plant of the museum.

Museum Pieces shows through March 12 in conjunction with the display of plans by Swiss architects Herzog & de Meuron for the proposed new de Young, a high modernist design that already has drawn the derision of provincials who can't get past Victorian architecture. We like the new design, what we've seen of it so far; but then, we find terra cotta fro-frot tiresome by now.

Like wow, man

Far Out: Bay Area Design, 1967-1973, which just opened at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, showcases Bay Area designers and artists who tuned in, dropped out, and made art. There's Wavy Gravy's rainbow suit and Janis Joplin's hand-painted Porsche, but the heart and soul of the show is the museum's own collection of psychedelic rock 'n' roll posters from The Fillmore and the Avalon Ballroom. Trippy!

for that, man.

Far Out: Bay Area Design 1967-1973 remains on view through February 20, 2000.

Gorefest

Author Gore Vidal made a rare Bay Area appearance last week at MCC, to plump for his latest books and sign them for fans. You didn't read about it here first, because, although we were promised an interview with the great man himself, that was down-sized considerably as the great day approached into the opportunity to fax our questions in advance to the author, and have him fax his great answers back (if he approved of our questions, that is). Apparently, he couldn't spend twenty minutes in the flesh with us, even for a piece in the premier gay newspaper in what is arguably the gay capital of the US. His publicist said she didn't know where we got the idea that he might do a face-to-face interview.

Still, the great man of letters wants our support in selling his latest pronouncements, which include *Sexually Speaking: Collected Sex Writings* (Cleis). In preparation for the interview that wasn't to happen, we had been reading the new biography of Vidal by Fred Kaplan (Doubleday), but then we were informed by his publicist that the subject of the 850-page tome would not discuss the book at all, because "he hasn't read it." Well, we have read it, and having all that dish about La Vidal's legendary feuds with zany, deluded Truman Capote and macho asshole Norman Mailer endlessly rehashed only made us think what egomaniacal, dizzy queens all three were or are (even the notoriously homophobic Norman: a big queen).

Instead, Gore would only talk about his novel recently out in paperback *The Smithsonian Institution* (Harcourt Brace), a wacky if far-fetched contrivance which hinges on time travel and the physics of the atom bomb. We would have asked him questions about that folly of a novel, but about halfway through reading it, we put it down and (yawn) couldn't bring ourselves to pick it back up.

Okay, we admit it: we were peeved by how we were chewed up and spit out by Vidal's publicity machine, particularly when we learned that, though he had no time for us, he had time enough to be interviewed by some local documentary filmmakers. Presumably the opportunity to have his aged mug appear up on the Silver Screen was just too good for GV to pass up.

Can you tell we need a vacation? We're outta here for a week. When we return, we'll tell you where we've been. ▼

release your ideas



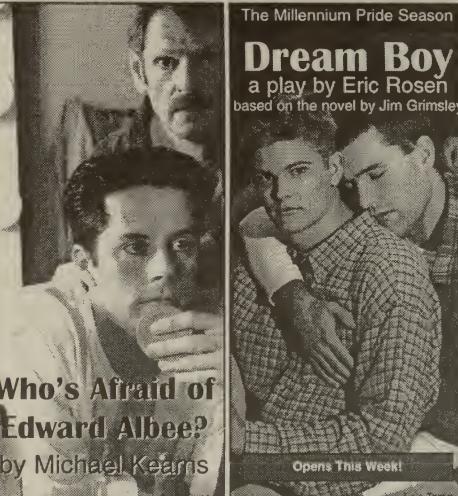
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Jim Christensen as a child in *The Kindergarten Project*

shown here is part of *The Kindergarten Project*, Jim Christensen's re-imagining of every child in his Kindergarten class, including himself, incarnate in little mannequins, quite uncanny.

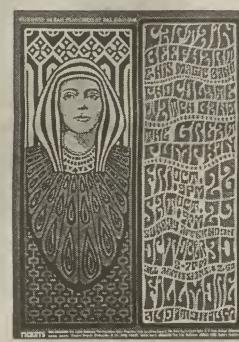
The exhibition is only one part of a larger festival of Bay Area artists at YBC, which includes a performing arts component (Paul Dresher, Brian Freeman, Bob Ostertag), readings and a film series. Watch these pages for further developments. *Bay Area Now 2* runs through February 13.

You read it here first: the staff at Yerba Buena is excitedly making preparations to present a big show devoted to the work of Parisian art photographers Pierre et Gilles at the top of 2001.

Meanwhile, over at the beleaguered de Young, a breath of fresh air: Bay Area artists take the museum itself as the subject or jumping-off place for their work, in a show guest-curated by writer and



Guest Curator (Glen Helfand), by Caitlin Mitchell-Dayton



1966 rock poster by Wes Wilson

"They say that if you can remember San Francisco in the late 1960s, you weren't really there." SFMOMA curator of architecture, design and digital projects Aaron Betsky said with a knowing smile at the show's opening, though he was a kid in Europe way back then. The festive affair brought out more psychedelic-era artists and craftspeople than you could shake a flower at. SFMOMA director David Ross wore a vintage Nixon/Agnew button — ironically, we think — and said he believed it was the only N/A button in all of SF. There's a reason



Gore Vidal, Truman Capote, and Tennessee Williams, New York, 1948

Jo Healy, courtesy of Erin Clement

THEATRE

Tennessee dreaming

Long-lost Williams play opens in Marin

by Richard Dodds

It was an offer the director could easily refuse: "How'd you like to do an unproduced play by a young, unknown playwright?" Because the offer came from a friend, Lee Sankowich agreed to at least read the play. "But my first reaction was, 'Oh, God,'" admitted the artistic director of the Marin Theatre Company.

Lee Sankowich, director of *Spring Storm*

It was only when the play arrived that Sankowich learned the "young, unknown playwright" was Thomas Lanier Williams — who would soon become world-famous as Tennessee Williams. The play, *Spring Storm*, had languished for years in Williams' mother's garage before getting stashed away in the Williams archives at the University of Texas at Austin.

Rediscovered several years ago, *Spring Storm* began attracting attention following the successful production of *Not About Nightingales*, another lost script of the same era.

"But this play is not at all like *Not About Nightingales*, which was written as a class assignment for a professor who was an advocate of political theater," Sankowich said. "*Spring Storm* is quintessential Williams style. But his professor, who called Williams 'that pansy,' believed plays like *Spring Storm* belonged in medical journals and not on the stage."

Disappointed by his professor's reaction, the 26-year-old University of Iowa student put the play aside. Now, more than 60 years after it was written, Marin Theatre Company is sharing with the University of Texas the prestige of premiering the play on stage.

The Marin theater got into the act thanks to Lyle Leverich, the Bay Area writer and authorized biographer of Williams. "Lyle had known my work for years," Sankowich said, "and he has the influence to call Williams' agents and say, 'These are the people who should really be doing this play.'"

But even after Sankowich realized the script that Leverich had been promoting was by Williams, he was still skeptical. "I'm thinking to myself, 'If it's so good, why wasn't it ever done? I was prepared to be disappointed. But on the contrary, I was really excited about what I read."

Spring Storm focuses on young love and mismatched attractions in a small Southern town. The play, the young Williams said, "is simply the study of sex — blind

animal urge of force gripping four lives and leading them into a tangle of cruel and ugly relations."

Williams himself was sexually conflicted at the time he wrote *Spring Storm*, realizing his attraction to men but not allowing himself to act upon them. "It was a huge transitional period for him," Sankowich said. "He is very much reflected in the character of Arthur, who is in love with a woman he's not getting any response from. There's nothing overt, but you get a clear sense of his confusion."

Williams also wrote that his intention was "not to write a melodramatic 'shocker,' but to give a sincere psychological treatment of problems I have felt keenly."

But while the play contains considerable humor, Sankowich said, it is undeniably melodramatic. "There is no question that the emotions are huge in this play," the director said. "I think the key to that is how it's acted and directed so that you believe in these emotions. And I really feel that the cast I have pulls that off."

For ticket information, call 388-5208.

Broadway previews

Theater critics aren't supposed to review shows that are still in preview, but what the heck. A recent trip to New York included visits to four musicals that will be opening officially in the coming days and weeks. They ranged from wunderbar to underwhelming.

A sumptuous, goosed-up revival of Cole Porter's *Kiss Me, Kate* is definitely in the wunderbar category. Martin Mazzie and Brian Stokes Mitchell are delightful as the sparring actors, Michael Blakemore's direction is crisp, and Kathleen Marshall's choreography repeatedly stops the show. Only some contemporary tweaking to the book ring false.

A new musical starring Audra McDonald should be a cause for celebration, but *Marie Christine* isn't the kind of show that sparks much revelry. With a cold book and an uninvolved score by Michael John LaChiusa, this American variation on *Medea* is easier to respect than to like.

Putting it Together does the impossible. It makes Stephen Sondheim seem bland. Not even Carol Burnett's misplaced shtick can wake up this dreary revue. And what the cast does to "Being Alive" should be punishable by law.

Swing! wants to be all swings to all people. This amiable, inoffensive song-and-dance revue is designed to ride the swing-dance wave. But little more than an extended Gap ad, it doesn't belong on Broadway.

Finally, a show not in previews. After opening to a clutch of glowing reviews, *Contact* is sold out for its run at Lincoln Center's Newhouse Theatre, and after *Marie Christine* finishes its limited engagement, it will replace it in the larger Beaumont. Described as a "dance play," it's great fun, telling odd but compelling stories through dance and dialogue. It's also a production of increasing returns, starting off with a thin piece before building to a terrific tour-de-force conclusion.

Packing their purses

San Francisco's own dragapela beautyshop quartet has a date in Manhattan. Contracts have been signed that should land the Kinsey Sicks at an off-Broadway theater some time this spring.

"Obviously, it's an incredibly exciting big leap for us," said group member Ben Schatz. "It isn't easy to find producers with deep pockets and shal-low sensibilities."

Barry Brown, a producer on *La Cage aux Folles* and the Tyne Daly revival of *Gypsy*, will be the lead producer of the Kinsey Sicks' new show. The director will be Glen Casale, who staged *Cathy Rigby's* production of *Peter Pan*.

"Essentially, we'll be doing a best-of show with a couple of new songs written with a New York audience in mind," Schatz said. "But we're not taping down our material at all. The producers want us to have an edge."

Coming attraction

The off-Broadway hit *Naked Boys Singing* is coming our way. A San Francisco production of the musical revue is expected to open next summer for an open-ended run. The local producer is Jonathan Reinis, operator of Theatre on the Square, although a

local venue has not been chosen. Casting will be done both here and in New York.

Currently at the Actors' Playhouse in New York, the show contains occasional touching and poignant songs, but mostly the tone is lighthearted. A sampling of song titles includes "Gratuitous Nudity," "The Naked Maid," "Muscle Addiction," "Robert Mitchum," and "Perky Little Porn Star."

"*Naked Boys Singing* isn't for everyone," Anita Gates wrote in *The New York Times*, "and it's hardly brilliant, but it should please its target audience, and the rest of us who can, in the right mood, appreciate slightly prurient songs about circumcision."

Christmas package

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. The first of a stockingful of queer holiday en-

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Up from obscurity

Bobbe Norris, 'Out of Nowhere'

by Jim Van Buskirk

Bobbe Norris may seem to have appeared *Out of Nowhere*, as the title of her brand new album suggests, but her arduous journey, testament to the all-too-familiar fragility of the jazz vocalist, is reflected throughout this sensuous CD.

Norris grew up in Marin County during the '50s, listening to Nat "King" Cole and emulating his silky tones with her own dusky contralto. After singing at school rallies and assemblies, at the age of 15 she won the Miss Marin County talent competition with her rendition of "Blues in the Night."

Soon she was opening shows at the Purple Onion for Phyllis Diller and the Smothers Brothers. Moving to New York, she signed with Columbia Records, which attempted to fit her into a pop groove on *The Beginning*, recorded in 1966 with a 40-piece orchestra.

Unfortunately, the album didn't sell, and *The Beginning* ironically marked an end to her blossoming career. Wanting to sing jazz, but encouraged by various producers to be more commercial, Norris ultimately declared bankruptcy and moved back to the Bay Area, performing only occasionally.

At one Menlo Park gig in the late '70s, she met pianist Larry Dunlap. Dunlap had been musical director for the Pointer Sisters in 1975, has performed frequently at the Monterey Jazz Festival, and recorded with Cleo Laine, among others. Norris and Dunlap's musical relationship segued into marriage, and the couple is one of the Bay Area's best-kept jazz secrets.

That will likely change on Monday, November 22, when they launch *Out of Nowhere* at the Plush Room. Norris and Dunlap will be joined by John Wiitala on bass to perform music from the CD as well as other jazz/cabaret music.

Dunlap's role as arranger and producer of the album is evident throughout; the orchestrations are astutely restrained, with trombone, flute or sax brought in only when it makes sense. I question his decision to use electric keyboard instead of piano on "Love Not Now" and "Star Eyes."

Dunlap's sensitive piano-playing is apparent in the first few delicate notes of the opening cut, even before Norris comes in to ignite "My Old Flame," the rich smokiness of her voice reinvigorating the nostalgic standard. Together, the two bring an understanding to the carefully chosen material, delicately balancing on that indefinable cusp between jazz and cabaret. A certain melancholy pervades the entire album, from the supreme sadness of "Only the Lonely" to the only slightly sassier "Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea."

Dunlap also joins his wife on vocals in "Love Turns Winter to Spring" and his own composition, the wittily romantic "I'd Rather Be Here." Norris' husky voice is liquid gold on such tunes as Jule Styne's "You Say You Care" and the swinging "It's You or No One."

Backstage

◀ previous page

entertainment is set to open Nov. 26 at Piaf's. *The Last Noel* casts Birdie-Bob Watt and Tom Orr as a lower-rung Steve and Eddie lounge act who are reuniting for one final performance before calling it quits on their marriage and their career.

Pop hits and show tunes make up the splitting duo's repertoire, which is designed to speak to "the meaning of life and love, memory and nostalgia, feelings and regrets, romance, heartbreak, and the passage of time." Presumably there will be a few laughs, too.

Watt and Orr previously collaborated on *Sweet Parody*. Watt has also had his hand in *Christmas with the Crawfords*, *Eve*, and *Cyberotica*, while Orr is best known for *Dirty Little Showtunes*.

The Last Noel will run through Dec. 30. For reservations call 864-3700. ▶



Bobbe Norris and Larry Dunlap

The voice soars from sea-spray to stardust on "How Deep is the Ocean?" and hauntingly informs the title cut. Infrequently, Norris seems to lose control of her instrument before quickly regaining her vocal acumen. She lovingly embraces the Latin lilt of "Choro Das Aguas/Comecar de Novo."

"This Life We've Led," the album's last cut, is a lament to the pain of an ill-fated affair. Norris and Dunlap, who obviously know

the terrain, have chosen a fitting closer to this poignant album, acknowledging the joys of the journey amid the vicissitudes of love and life. ▶

The CD release party for *Out of Nowhere* is Monday, November 22 at the Plush Room, 940 Sutter St. (885-2800). Doors open at 7 p.m., performance at 8 p.m. \$15 cover charge.

LA story

'jaywalker'

by Richard Dodds

Let's face it. Jokes about Los Angeles' dependency on the automobile, its population's obsession with their bodies, and the shallowness of Hollywood agents are not exactly cutting edge. But Marga Gomez can make them seem fresh, by skewering in a style that is merrily skewed.

In *jaywalker* — the lower-case emphasizing the lowly status of LA pedestrians — Gomez provides a surreal account of her brief time struggling for her share of the Hollywood dream. What tempers her anger and disappointment is the fact that she obviously recognizes how bogus that dream is.

She's probably only half kidding when she says her goal was to be the first Latina lesbian on *Baywatch*. When she describes how she beat up on herself for flubbing an audition to play a maid, after proudly insisting she would never play a maid or a prostitute, there is a real desperation lurking behind the comic surface.

Gomez, who got her start in comedy in San Francisco, is expert at taking everyday occurrences and ratcheting them up into a twilight zone of absurdity. The waiter in a trendy restaurant not only informs her that the chicken she ordered was a free-range bird, but he also tells her its name and its hobbies. But not much ratcheting is needed to mine the absurd-



Marga Gomez in *jaywalker*

ity of stumbling upon John Tesh getting his star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

During the Tesh segment, Gomez does a brief impression of Mary Hart that captures what is grotesque about the hyper-happy host of *Entertainment Tonight*. Not even one of Gomez's heroes, Kathleen Turner, is immune from this treatment.

But even as she pokes and prods, especially at the agency she feels sold her out, Gomez never absolves herself of a complicity in her own degradation. What keeps this story of a failed dream from being a downer is the good-natured self-awareness that Gomez brings to the material.

Gomez projects a self-deprecating need to be liked, something that isn't hard to oblige. We like you, Marga, we really like you. ▶

***jaywalker* will run at Theatre Rhino through Dec. 12. Tickets are \$12 and \$15. Call 861-5079.**

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THEATRE

Conspicuous consumption

'Hillary and Soon-Yi Shop for Ties'

by Richard Dodds

In *Hillary and Soon-Yi Shop for Ties*, Hillary Clinton is forced to grimly recite the punch lines to an increasingly cruel barrage of Bill and Hillary jokes. At least some in the audience, apparently thinking the jokes were meant to amuse, began hissing the stage. Satire can be a dangerous thing.

Michelle Carter's new play at the Magic Theatre does head into some disturbing areas, but usually not for long. Subtitled "a vaudeville for a new millennium," the collection of scenes and occasional songs does leaven its downbeat message with regular shots of humor.

In fact, Lorri Holt's entrance as Hillary draws laughter and applause, so keenly does the actress suggest the first lady's look and manner. When she says through clenched teeth that "any new tie coming into my house is going right into the shredder," it's as if we're finally hearing what's behind that shellacked veneer.

Soon-Yi Previn Allen, of course, is more of a cipher, and Amy Tung mainly plays the surfaces, but the playwright uses the adopted daughter of Mia Farrow as an effective counterpart to the ambitious, calculating Hillary. Marrying Woody Allen, Soon-Yi winds up with a father figure. Hillary wound up with a boy, and she grows her own penis in response.

Carter has an unpredictable imagination, as when she conjures up a meeting between Soon-Yi and her adoptive grandmother, Maureen O'Sullivan, in her *Tarzan* movie attire, or when she has Hillary uncomfortably wit-

Amy Tung and Lorri Holt in *Hillary and Soon-Yi Shop for Ties*.

nessing Woody Allen taking the notorious photos of a pliable Soon-Yi.

Not all the scenes pay off, and there can be a casual pace to Joan Mankin's direction. Carter is obviously interested in more than the individual stories of these two women, and the second act brings appearances by the Virgin Mary, Marilyn Monroe, and Monica Lewinsky, among others. But it's hard to grasp just what Carter is after.

Does Carter see Hillary and Soon-Yi as women damaged by their men, by society's expectations, or by some internal flaws? The answers may not be clear, but in the haze, the questions become vaguely disquieting. ▼

Hillary and Soon-Yi Shop for Ties will run at the Magic Theatre through Dec. 12. Tickets are \$15-\$30. Call 441-8822.

A young man's fancy



The third-year students of the ACT MFA Program are currently presenting performances of Ferdinand Bruckner's *Pains of Youth* and Frank Wedekind's *Spring Awakening* (pictured above, Zachary Knower as Hanschen Rilow, and Ben Sharples as Ernst Röbel in *Spring Awakening*). *Pains* is set in 1923 Vienna, and focuses on the anarchy, sexual experimentation and corruption of Europe between the World Wars. *Spring* was written in 1891 and ahead of its time in its portrayal of freedom through sexuality.

The plays continue in repertory through November 21 at the Magic Theatre, Building D, Fort Mason. For tickets, call 749-2ACT. ▼

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Bite-size but satisfying

37th Ann Arbor Film Festival Tour

by Gary Morris

Ann Arbor's festival of short experimental films is the nation's oldest, but you'd never know it from this year's entries. This bite-size fest, spread over two nights and running an inviting four hours or so in toto, has a freshness and an energy lacking in the more bloated festivals that clog the Bay Area. It's not clear why this is so: perhaps Ann Arbor's judges are more sensible than most; maybe brevity breeds taste; or possibly because it's a touring festival, it has to look its best. For whatever reasons, this is the anti-Thanksgiving festival: no turkeys.

Sticklers who insist that a festival of "short" films should live up to its name will be pleased with several of the entries. Gregory Godhard's *Mind's Eye* is a satisfying

five-minute mind-fuck that recalls the *trompe l'oeil* puzzle-work of Escher or Magritte, with a camera that careens at dizzying speed in and out of picture postcard landscapes. Godhard also gets the nod for making a short film in which there's only one credit: his. That's rare indeed these days, when the typical five-minute short is two minutes of movie and three minutes of cast and crew and thank-yous.

Simplicity is always appreciated, and *Sid* has that, plus perversity. This one-joke miniature (three minutes) is an increasingly weird record of a grim pug dog's attempts to hang onto a rubber steam filmmaker Jeffrey Scher is holding. This leads to the pug's comic transformation into a canine carousel as the filmmaker whirls around endlessly and the pug becomes airborne.

Art gets its due in several of the entries. Laura Margulies's *Hepal* is a lively variant on the music video, with fast-paced painterly images grooving to a relentless percussive beat. The real find in this realm, though, is a half-hour visit with a Detroit artist who transforms a slum street into a veritable candyland via junkyard objects and buckets of paint. Nicole Catell's *Come Unto Me: The Faces of Tyree Guyton* shows the majesty of art removed from galleries and academe as the visionary Guyton enlists relatives and neighbors in an artistic reclamation of their streets. Some of the imagery is startlingly fresh and subtly suggestive. Exceptional in this regard is a huge tree trimmed with hundreds of swaying shoes, a vision inspired by Guyton's grandfather's memories of being a child looking up at the shoes — all he could see — of lynched black men.

A different mix of artistry and politics is on view in Rebecca Baron's *Okay Bye Bye*, a deceptively casual 40-minute history of Cambodia rendered in a kind of poetic/diaristic form, as a dialogue with an unseen second person. Baron wrenchingly explores the double genocide visited on this troubled country — first by US bombs and then the Cambodian government — and finds disturbing similarities between Nixon, Kissinger, and Pol Pot. The film's sense of quiet resignation makes it

all the more powerful. Baron brilliantly flashes, at recurring intervals, the same found footage of a young, laughing, unknown Cambodian man as a symbol of what's lost when monstrous historical forces take over, and as a metaphor for the impossibility of comprehending those forces.

For a small festival like this, there's a surprising amount of queer and queer-friendly material. The ever-welcome camp deconstruction of avant-gardist Martin Arnold returns in *Alone, Life Wastes Andy Hardy*. Arnold meticulously repeats frames from scenes from old movies and runs them backwards and forwards in a grotesque creation of bizarre new storylines in place of the old. The

film's reimagining of "innocent" Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney as two parts of a hilarious incestuous ménage — Mickey's saintly mom turned slutty shrew makes three — earns an unqualified rave.

More homo fun arrives with local talent Daven Gee's *Chemistries*, a nine-minute skewering of the corporate homily "better living through chemistry," including footage of a pathetic pink octopus crawling out of a tank and some charming poetry: "I want to hold the smell of his skin, the love between us, inside me forever." In the film's parade of ironic imagery — particularly the shots of cells and chemical reactions — what's clearest is that science and time

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Idiot boxed

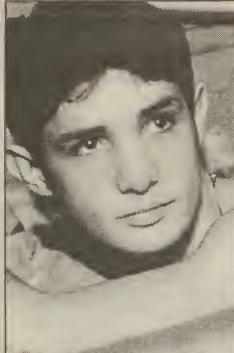
by Will Shank

EdTV, directed by Ron Howard (Universal Studios Home Video)

Matthew McConaughey carries *EdTV* with sheer charisma and a sexy smile. Ron Howard's dark comedy flopped at the box office, perhaps because it followed too closely on the heels of Peter Weir's much darker *The Truman Show*. But *EdTV* is one of Howard's most successful movies. Unlike Jim Carrey's Truman, the scrutinized lead character here knows that his life is a TV show, and he willingly signs on... until it becomes intolerably disruptive. McConaughey and Woody Harrelson are perfectly cast as brothers, one a winner and one a loser, and Jenna Elfman brings great sweetness to the role of the girlfriend who loses her private life to the glare of the TV cameras. The screenplay makes profound observations on the insane nature of fame. And the film draws energy from a stellar ensemble cast of actors that includes Martin Landau, Dennis Hopper, Elizabeth Hurley, Rob Reiner, and Ellen DeGeneres (who gets to dress butch, but does not really have a personal life) as an opportunistic TV executive with a heart of gold. Among the fans nationwide who cheer Ed on from the comfort of their living rooms is a gay male couple who play it for laughs, but with some dignity. San Francisco plays a major role in the film (Ed works in a video store on Grant Avenue in North Beach), but Ronnie, what happened to the footage shot outside SFMOMA?

Like It Is, directed by Paul Oremland, written by Robert Gray (Channel Four)

If *EdTV* is an American archetype, *Like It Is* is so English that it



Steve Bell in *Like It Is*

could benefit from subtitles for a Yankee audience. Doe-eyed Steve Bell gets the Star Treatment, as Paul Oremland's camera lovingly caresses his cute smile, his jug ears, his thick neck, his slim-but-muscular physique. Unfortunately, we have seen his story before. Leaving his wretched, small-town existence as a tough kid street-fighter in Blackpool, young Craig heads for the big city, London, and an opportunity to come out with Mr. Right.

The lucky guy is Matt, played by the taciturn Ian Rose, who works in a dance club where his fag-hag friend Paula (Dani Behr) is the featured performer. The inevitable jealousies, the agony over leaving the closet, and conflicted emotions about Craig's two lives play themselves out on screen, but the drama is curiously emotionless in that special English way. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of the film is the unexpected casting of Roger Daltrey as Kelvin, a lecherous, aging homo who is a slimy mentor to Matt. Daltrey has all the right moves, and he is almost as fit as he was as Tommy over 20 years ago. ▼

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Mann on top

'The Insider' is a knockout

by Michael McDonagh

Smoking isn't all it used to be. Remember when movies made it seem cool? And who can ever forget the fireworks in 1944's *To Have and Have Not* when Bogart lit Bacall's willing cigarette? Well, smoking isn't glamorous anymore. Michael Mann's stunning new film *The Insider* takes a close look at Dr. Jeffrey Wigand's decision to blow the whistle on the tobacco industry. But if his film only did that it would just be another p.c. tract for the converted. Fortunately, the director has decided to go much deeper.

CBS' goading of its star witness in the tobacco wars for *60 Minutes* is really just a cover for Mann's usual themes. And the director, who has made only five features since his first one, *Thief*, in 1981 — he's 56 — shapes it as a drama of failure (or fall) and redemption, but he doesn't romanticize either state. Classically constructed yet steeped in feeling, the film also plays as an exposé of corporate malfeasance, a drama of conscience, a study of contemporary marriage, a meditation on loneliness, and a remarkable and remarkably touching kind of platonic love story between two straight men, Wigand (Russell Crowe), and Mike Wallace segment producer Lowell Bergman (Al Pacino). How Mann and his co-scenarist Eric Roth are able to



Russell Crowe as Dr. Jeffrey Wigand in *The Insider*

Frank Connor

keep these and other strands fluid and believable is one of *The Insider*'s many marvels.

The relationship between Wigand and Bergman is pivotal. The journalist basically "stalks" him for his story, but then becomes humanly involved in the plight of this dour, unlikeable man fired from his \$300,000-a-year at Brown and Williamson in Louisville, paranoid, depressed, with a sick daughter and a failing marriage. (He's the object of death threats and a smear campaign, too.) Their friendship is also another installment in Mann's portraits of opposites who are very much alike, such as Pacino's cop and DeNiro's thief in *Heat* (1995), two insiders who are also somehow classic American outsiders, American males alone. *The Insider*'s scene of Pacino and Crowe in a parked car, in which the reporter continues to try to draw him out, rivals one in *Thief* where James Caan and Tuesday Weld, in a Chicago expressway coffee shop at night, compare their disappointed lives. You'd have to go back to James Dean and Carroll Baker in the rainy bar in George Stevens' 1956 *Giant* to find anything comparable.

Color field

Dante Spinotti's remarkably expressive cinematography — he's shot four of Mann's films including this one — uses color to define emotional areas. An expanse of bluegreen trees encroaches like some nameless fear, an idyllic mural in Wigand's hotel room becomes the backyard of his home, his two daughters standing there like all he's lost. The images

are the feelings, and as such they're often unconscious extensions of character and mood. Like a good poet, Mann gives us things or parts of things and trusts we'll get it.

He's aided by a remarkable cast. Al Pacino is intense but generally more subdued than he was in *Heat*. He's closer here to the performance he gave in *Sea of Love* (1989). But his yells are still some of the best money shots in the business. Crowe's portrait of a reined-in man accomplishes the near-impossible feat of making the audience feel compassion for him. And Christopher Plummer's Wallace emerges as vain, aggressive, a man at odds with himself who's believably human.

The supporting players are phenomenal, especially Diane Venora as Wigand's wife, Gina Gershon (Meg Tilly's girlfriend in *Bound*) as a CBS lawyer, Michael Gambon as Wigand's former boss, and Colm Feore as lawyer Richard Scruggs. I should also mention the expert cutting by three editors, and the haunting score by Lisa Gerrard (formerly of Dead Can Dance) and Pieter Bourke.

Mann could have made a schematic attack on big business instead of a tale of greed and fear, with the complexity and depth of a novel by Zola or Conrad. This is an intelligent, subtle, and supremely accomplished piece of work by the best director in American film. And it's probably a masterpiece, too. ▼

The Insider is now playing in Bay Area theatres.

Ann Arbor

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march on relentlessly, even for gay boys in love.

The standout in this series is also the queerest entry: *Where the Homo?* In a mere 35 minutes, filmmaker Jean-François Monette conjures a compelling gay autobiography from the confetti of pop culture — everything from beefcake loops and Jean Cocteau's *Orpheus* to *Cruising*, *Snow White*, and Joan Crawford in *Straight Jacket*. He punctuates his insights with visual witticisms based on his "courtship with the dark television forces." These forces offer the tantalizing hope of constructing an identity the narrator can live with, but the hope consistently collapses in the face of camp

and, in some of the imagery, sheer craziness. Is Joan Crawford in a frigid wig wielding a hatchet really a role model for a gay boy? Or is Madonna a better choice because she "gave tips on how to enslave rich men?" Monette's collage style suggests an endless war between authentic emotion and the demands (and forced fantasies) of the culture he's immersed in, but he'll survive. His dream images — a sweet Audrey Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and a little boy in a vast wedding dress — will make it so. With its rich allusiveness and layers of ironies, *Where Lies the Homo?* is the best of a very good fest. ▼

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Deadly parlor games

Hitchcock's 'Dial M for Murder' at Castro

by Victoria A. Brownworth

Alfred Hitchcock had two basic film styles, both of which adapted the classic good versus evil of the mystery genre: The expansive, in the streets, chase/quest mystery, in which the protagonist is running from or seeking something and ends up in deeper trouble than she/he was when starting out (*Psycho*, *The Man Who Knew Too Much*, *The Thirty-Nine Steps*); and the parlor mystery, in which claustrophobia sets in as the protagonist tries to escape or challenge the inherent evil stalking her/him (*Rope*, *Dial M for Murder*, *Rear Window*, *Strangers on a Train*).

Hitchcock's films defined the sexual identity thriller much as Raymond Chandler's fiction defined the sexual detective thriller. Sexual innuendo charged Hitchcock's films and often had the tinge of perversity to it — *Marnie* broke taboos by discussing frigidity and child molestation; *Vertigo* and *Spellbound* are like journals of personal sexual obsession; *Psycho* and *Frenzy* detail what happens when sexual obsession runs amok. Hitchcock was also one of the first directors to open his films with scenes of sexual activity, like the afternoon lovemaking in *Psycho*.

None of Hitchcock's films is overtly queer (though *Rope*, based on the Leopold and Loeb case later made sexually explicit in Todd Haynes' *Swoon*, certainly does all but leap from the closet), but many of his films have distinctly queer elements. One such is *Dial M for Murder*, playing the Castro Theatre for two weeks beginning Friday, November 19. A parlor mystery similar in style to *Rope* (and also based on a play), *Dial M* opens in London on the strained marriage of Tony and Margot Wendice (Ray Milland and Grace Kelly). He's a tennis star turned businessman, she's an heiress having an affair with American mystery writer Mark Halliday (Robert Cummings).

Tony fears Margot will leave him for Mark — taking her money with him — and plans an elaborate murder-for-hire using an old school chum, Swann (Anthony Dawson), who's spent time on the wrong side of the law. But as Mark warns in a conversation with Tony and Margot, even the best laid murder plans can go seriously wrong, because life is unpredictable. This foreshadowing, however, doesn't prepare the viewer for how wrong Tony's plan will go, and for where Hitchcock will take us.

Amazing Grace

Nearly the entire action of the film takes place in the Wendices' flat, a disturbingly claustrophobic space that heightens the dramatic tension. As a parlor mystery, *Dial M* is formulaic — it's what Hitchcock does with that formula plus the stellar performances that make the film special. As she was in *Rear Window*, Grace Kelly is exquisite — nearly perfect-looking. When Mark turns up in London, Hitchcock doesn't play games with their passion: Kelly's in a red dress with a lacy top, and the kiss is full-bodied — this is infidelity, alright, yet it's somehow clean, there's nothing smarmy about it. Kelly is kissing him right there in

her living room with her husband to come home, and she feels no shame.

And come home he does, but not to subterfuge — this is a civilized group. Mark and Margot invite Tony out to dinner, but he begs off — he has a murder to plan.

As Tony describes his marital troubles to the sleazy Swann, we are given hints about Tony's own sexual proclivities. He tells Swann, whom he's been shadowing for some time, "I began to feel you belonged to me." As he describes Margot's insistence that he quit the tennis circuit, we wonder if Margot suspected, as we do, that Tony may have an eye for something other than the ladies.

It's clear Tony is obsessional; it's equally clear his feelings for Margot are avaricious, not emotional or even sexual (they have twin beds, after all). Still, she's quite protective of him, even defending him to Mark. Despite her

infidelity, she's a devoted wife.

The scenes of sexual perversity arise from the botched murder attempt. Kelly stumbles, half-asleep, into the living room. The light from the bedroom falls behind her, outlining her perfect body through her delicate peignoir. She stands, dishabille and sweetly vulnerable and sexy, on the phone with Tony silent on the other end. Suddenly, Swann has a stocking around her neck, her back arches over the desk, Hitchcock gives us a shot of her beautiful leg shooting out from beneath the filmy material of her nightgown. We are meant to view this scene as sexual: the way Hitchcock angles Kelly's body, the way Tony listens as his wife struggles for her life (it's a truly perverse kind of phone sex), the way Swann twists and turns as he tries to pull the scissors from his back when she stabs him. Later, Milland bends over the body and exclaims, "There's hard-

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Robert Cummings and Grace Kelly in *Dial M for Murder*.



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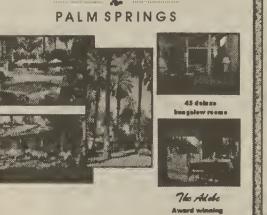
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Comedian Bob Smith gets serious

by Gregg Shapiro

Gay writer and comedian Bob Smith gets serious on us with his new book *Way To Go, Smith!* (Weisbach/Morrow, \$24), the follow-up to his Lambda Literary Award-winning book *Openly Bob*. Smith's trademark wicked sense of humor can still be found within the pages of his new book, but there is also a more serious side that emerges in his essays.

Gregg Shapiro: When we spoke two years ago, you said that you thought that your second book might be a work of fiction. But *Way To Go, Smith!* is written in the same style as *Openly Bob*.

Bob Smith: I had proposed an idea for a work of fiction, but I didn't have a clear idea of what exactly I wanted to do. I did have a lot of ideas for essays and I talked with Rob [Weisbach], the publisher, and he thought doing a follow-up collection was the way to go. His idea was that I should establish myself as a humorist. I definitely had things I wanted to

write about and I thought, "Go for that."

Way To Go, Smith! is bracketed by the pieces "Wolf Whistling in the Dark" and "War and Piece of Ass," essays about your break-up with your longtime partner Tom, and your life as a single man looking for companionship, respectively. Are there any new developments in your love life since the book was finished?

This summer I had a ... this is such an LA story. I dated this guy who's a surfer. The sexy surfer type. He took me surfing, and we went camping at this beach San Onofre, down near San Diego. It's a really famous surfing beach. The Beach Boys sing about it.

We camped out because hardcore surfers like to wake up at dawn, because the waves are better when the sun is coming up. And when the sun is going down. So we went down at sunset, and he surfed. The next morning, I was going to try to learn how to surf. Of course, the waves were pretty big, and it was freezing. The water is cold. I had a wetsuit on.

He had brought along the boogie-board. When he packed it in the car, he said, "I'm going to bring the boogie-board, but it's for girls." Of course, I ended up learning on the boogie-board and not really surfing.

I had a "can I feel your arm" moment last night at an Iggy Pop concert, but stopped myself before I asked the guy. You write about that sensation as a high school student in the essay, "I'm Just a Love Machine." I was wondering if you still have the desire to ask a complete stranger if you can touch their bulging biceps?

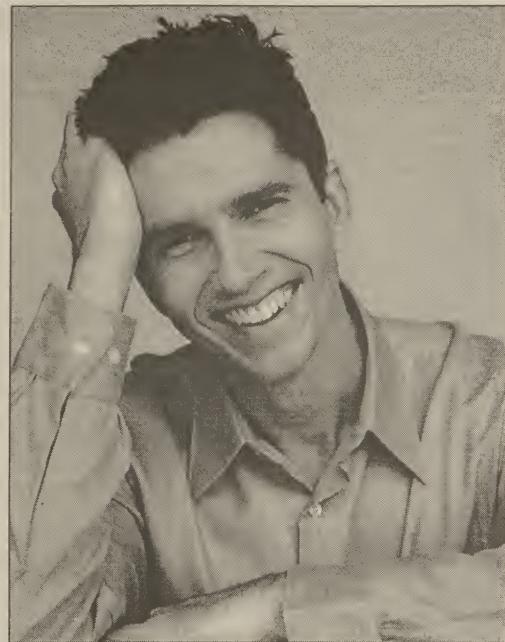
Oh, yeah. I'm certainly attracted to sexy guys. I have more self-restraint, I think. Or fear. One thing people said about the last book was that they wanted the next one to be a little sexier. So I tried to be honest about different things, about what makes me tick.

You write about going through your high school yearbook. Have you attended any of your high school class reunions?

I missed the 10-year one. And then our 20th reunion was cancelled, which made me mad, because I definitely wanted to write about that. Now I'm holding out for the 25th reunion.

In *Way To Go, Smith!*, you write a little bit more about your mother, who, as it turns out, is also extremely funny. Would you say that you got your sense of humor from her?

It's weird, because my mother has a very dry sense of humor. I think my sense of humor developed in response to my mother in a weird way. She would do things that were so totally deadpan. There's a joke in my stand-up act about my birthday being on December 24. The joke is about how horrible that is for a birthday. One year my mother actually gave me a pack of batteries, and said, after I opened



Bob Smith

Firooz Zarei

them, "Well, you'll need them tomorrow."

It's a mix, I think, in response to my mother and listening to my father's sarcastic comments for my entire life. My grandmother, too, who was very funny and a big part of our lives.

She was a really aggressive, bullying kind of woman. But some of the harshest things that she said still seemed funny to me. Like, if you bit your nails, she would mock you, but it never seemed abusive. There's that fine line.

What about television, the new gay frontier?

I've met with the *Will & Grace* people a couple of times. They

called me. I don't think anything's going to happen with that. I mean, they're doing well without me, but I do think I would be an asset to the show. It's funny, because I moved to LA, theoretically, to work in the film and television industry, and I've worked for the MTV Video Music Awards, and Rosanne hired me to work on a sketch show. But mostly, I've been writing books. The thing about the books is that, at least, you get a contract for a book and it's a commitment on the part of the publisher and yourself to do it, and you have more control over it and know what's going to happen. Whereas they want you to write these "spec" scripts for TV and film, and then maybe someone will hire you. ▼

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by Philip Campbell

A clutch of new compact discs celebrating the Duke Ellington centennial (1899-1999) has arrived just in time, along with the revival of a classic Comden/Green & Bernstein musical, all making for some terrific year-end listening and possible holiday gift ideas.



Leonard Bernstein: *Wonderful Town*; Criswell, McDonald, Hampson, London Voices, Birmingham Contemporary Music Group; Simon Rattle (EMI Classics)

Forget Rudolph Giuliani. New York City was, and always will be, a helluva town. Betty Comden and Adolph Green said it first, with composer Leonard Bernstein, in their epochal *On the Town*. If that show bristled with mostly male energy, a succeeding musical based on Ruth McKinney's *My Sister Eileen*, titled *Wonderful Town*, overflowed with the girl power of two sisters out to conquer Manhattan.

It was another heartfelt and witty valentine to the City — and a big hit in 1958. There was a television reprise with Rosalind Russell repeating her hilarious portrayal of the big sister, but none of the songs, with the possible exception of "A Quiet Girl," ever became well-known, and the delicious tunes fell into obscurity.

Leave it to the Brits to remind us of our treasurable musical theater legacy. Sir Simon Rattle has assembled a top-notch cast and teamed them with some fine English musicians for a virtually complete rendition of Bernstein's snappy, infectious score.

Kim Criswell gets all the big-voice parts these days, at least on disc. After belting her way through *Annie Get Your Gun* and *Kiss Me, Kate*, she is more than equal to the vocal tasks of the brittle, wisecracking Ruth. In fact, she sings circles around the recordings by Russell. How can we blame her if her predecessor

owned the role? No one has ever really matched Russell's comic timing and inflection. She had the patent on those chic, tough-talking dame parts, and few contemporary artists could compete.

Audra McDonald, as the younger and softer Eileen, is more comfortably cast. Of course, that means one of the Sherwood sisters is black and the other white, but if nontraditional casting works onstage, there is no reason why it shouldn't work here, and McDonald's sweet soprano is perfect for "A Little Bit in Love."

Thomas Hampson is a real catch for the male lead, as the part gets better treatment than it really needs. The orchestra is attentive and the chorus just fine. So why is the album a bit of a let-down? Probably because the show was recorded twice before, and both discs had Rosalind Russell.

The second edition for TV, from 1958, showed the actress in incomparable baritone form, joined by a strong Sydney Chaplin and a darling Jacqueline McKeever. It is not musically complete, but all of the songs are there, and the Columbia show album sound is vintage. Compare the riotous "Conversation Piece" and really laugh out loud at the wonderful Comden/Green lyrics. If you haven't heard the original cast, the bland new one will certainly do, and remember, the score is complete.



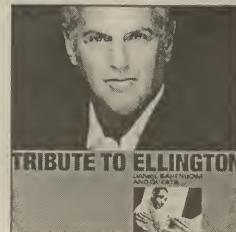
Tony Bennett Sings Ellington Hot & Cool; Bennett/Ralph Sharon Quartet (RPM Records/Columbia)

Tribute to Ellington; Daniel Barenboim/Guests (Teldec)

Joyful Noise; Don Sebesky (RCA Victor)

Tony Bennett knew and worked with Duke Ellington, and decades later, Sinatra's favorite saloon singer is exercising his pedigree with an album celebrating Edward Kennedy Ellington's centennial year.

On *Tony Bennett Sings Ellington Hot & Cool*, the big band charts are by the great Ralph Burns, and there are some silky



orchestral arrangements, too. Wynton Marsalis is on hand, and the Ralph Sharon Quartet supports sympathetically. "Take the A Train" becomes a recurring motif, and Bennett, who is in good voice, is obviously having a good time.

There are a few missteps, when the final phrasing on "Mood Indigo" wrecks the cut, and when the lyrics on "I've Got It Bad" are disfigured needlessly. Still, all is soon forgiven, as "Caravan" is treated with sexy throatiness, and "Don't Get Around Much Anymore" swings along, complete with verse. For admirers of Tony Ben-

nett and the Ellington worshipful, this one's a keeper.

Daniel Barenboim is not an artist ordinarily identified with popular music, but his new tribute to Ellington is also a winner and proves there is a meaningful link between chamber music and jazz.

Barenboim's crystalline piano-playing is matched by the edgy clarity of Don Byron's clarinet on two of the album's best cuts, and Diane Reeves supplies some prettiness, though slightly unimaginative vocals. At just under an hour, this is not a generous concert, but it makes an interesting and elegant statement.

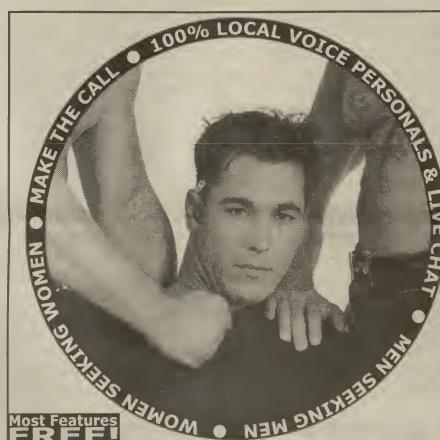
Arranger Don Sebesky is back with another tribute album, following his success with *I Remember Bill*, a luscious celebration of pianist Bill Evans. It would seem that a new take on Ellington for big band would be a natural, but the results are uneven.

Hearing tunes written by or associated with Bill Evans in a new orchestral guise was a revela-



tion, but trying to improve on the genius charts of Ellington proves futile. It is not that *Joyful Noise* is a failure; only that comparison is odious. One is tempted to simply pull out a classic like *Jazz Party* and skip the new release.

There is a suite in three parts skillfully quoting many of Ellington's greatest compositions, and guitarist John Pizzarelli lights up a few tracks with his detectable instrumental style and charmingly nasal vocals. The disc is certainly more daring than the other records under review, but I would still opt for the real thing to celebrate the 100th birthday of a man who made modern jazz the classical music of America. ▼



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Dial M

◀ page 45

ly any blood." Ooooh.

Enter the Inspector (John Williams). He's one of those effete queerish characters that Vito Russo explicated so deftly in *The Celluloid Closet*. He'll solve the crime, and comb his mustache as he does. Hercule Poirot seems positively butch next to this guy.

Dial M is a marvelous little thriller, full of creepy sexual nuance and terrific performances. Milland makes murder a tidy crime. When he calls the police, he explains, "There's been a ghastly accident." He serves them tea on a tray when they arrive. Kelly gives

a restrained performance fraught with vulnerability; Margot's at the mercy of a series of men and terrible circumstances. With his clean-cut good looks, Cummings exudes American earnestness. And Williams turns British camp into high art.

This isn't one of Hitchcock's big films, like *Vertigo* or *Psycho*, but like all his films, it's memorable and well worth seeing. Hitchcock's a master, and it's always a treat to watch a master at work. ▼

Dial M for Murder plays the Castro Theatre in a special double-system 3-D presentation, November 19-December 2.



Brad in B Sharp

Mehldau changes tune

by Tim Pfaff

Nothing, not even two new CDs, could have prepared his fans for the tricks rather than treats Brad Mehldau meted out at the San Francisco Jazz Festival's concert on Halloween. He came to the door in his casual best and gave generously; in noticeable contrast to the Festival's other pianists, his evening-long solo concert approached the two-and-a-half-hour mark with one intermission. But at least for some of his most devoted fans, there were razor blades in the candied apples.

The anticipation was keen on a number of fronts. As the Festival director who introduced him pointed out, the



Notes From All Over

28-year-old pianist is one of the hottest new stars in the jazz firmament (hot enough, in fact, that some close observers live in fear of his burnout). And the buzz is that his increasingly European career could seriously curtail performances in America, to say nothing of the Bay Area, in the foreseeable future.

Then, in the two weeks before his appearance, two new live CDs featuring Mehldau, as leader and as sideman, appeared — and fanned the flames even more. Back at the *Vanguard*, Volume 4 of his *Art of the Trio* series, boasted smoking interpretations of some of the music most associated with him, recorded live at New York's Village Vanguard (the site of the equally powerful Volume 2 in the series) last January. And *Another Shade of Blue*, a follow-up to *Alone Together*, again captured

Mehldau playing with alto saxman Lee Konitz and bassist Charlie Haden in transporting improvisations recorded at Los Angeles' Jazz Bakery in December 1997.

It turns out that the dates of these sessions are significant. Sad to say, they represent the "old" Mehldau. That would be the player with the highly sensitive, infinitely subtle touch, the unerring sense of rhythm (and penchant for rhythmic displacement), the huge, daring harmonic vocabulary, the ability to play all over the keyboard without the resulting expression seeming extreme — and, best and most impressive of all, soul, soul, soul. That guy could screw you into the floor with his playing.

The only notable change in Mehldau in the Village

Vanguard sessions early this year was that the playing was uniformly driven. Oases of that still, Schumann-esque interiority that so characterized his earlier CDs are conspicuously absent — but not, in the span of a single CD, missed. There isn't time to miss them in the flurry of white-hot music-making. This was in-your-face, even angry playing — bracing, even cathartic, in precisely the same way angry sex can be.

Rant-fest

Lest that seem pure speculation, a mere critical abstraction, Mehldau's liner note — yet another screed from one of the more verbal as well as vocal jazz artists on the circuit — reeked of resentment. "The constant comparison of this trio with the Bill Evans trio by critics has been a thorn in my side," it begins. Tell us what you



Brad Mehldau

— the way hearing him left me. While I'd rather hear Mehldau at his best than Jarrett at his any day of the week, Mehldau turns out to be a second-rate Jarrett — on an already trodden path hardly worth pursuing. The question that continued to nag at me all evening long was, Is this even jazz?

Creating change

Whatever it was, it stank of privilege — run amok, as privilege so often does. Indirectly, that's the heart of *Music of the Heart*, now playing at a theater near you. If you love music enough to have been studiously avoiding this film, as I was, you may wish to reconsider. It has as big a heart as its title promises, and it summons some genuine emotions (while manipulating a host of others) in its depiction of a real-life violin teacher, Roberta Guaspari, who stumbles off a marriage gone bad into a teaching job in East Harlem, America's epicenter of underprivilege, and changes a few hundred kids', and as many adults', lives in the process.

The film's also got one of the worst cases of split ends I've encountered on celluloid in a while.



Meryl Streep in *Music of the Heart*

There are scores of frames that seem to open new scenes and suggest plot shifts that don't go anywhere at all, romantic subplots so muddled (this may be the real-life part) that Meryl Streep's two love interests both appear at the culminating Carnegie Hall scene and she and the film pursue neither of them, crippling levels of political correctness and a script only Meryl could save (and she doesn't even have an accent to hide behind).

It shouldn't work, a lot of the time doesn't and ultimately does. It says a lot more about the power of the violin than *The Red Violin*, with a conspicuously bigger budget, did. And Josh Bell has more on-screen time. With the holidays hard on us, there are worse places you could go to get a tear jerked. ▼

An earful of John Adams

by Michael McDonagh

Does Berkeley-based composer John Adams have a recognizable style, or has he merely rummaged through drawers looking for something to wear?

Nonesuch's 10-CD retrospective set, *The John Adams Earbox*, goes a long way toward answering that sometimes vexing question. Adams' relationship with the company began in 1985, and this special edition gives a pretty complete picture of his work so far. One of the most publicized and celebrated composers of his generation (he was born in 1947), he received the biggest prize in classical music, the \$150,000 Gräwe-meyer, in 1995 for his 1993 Violin Concerto, written at the request of San Francisco violinist Jorja Fleezanis, and recorded here by Gidon Kremer, with Kent Nagano conducting the London Symphony. But I've always felt that Adams' less ambitious pieces were better.

"Occasional ones" — his term — like *Slonimsky's Earbox* (1996), with Nagano and the Hallé Orchestra, are frequently tighter and have a lot more force than solidly conventional efforts like *Harmoni* (1980-81), in a new and not very effective recording with the composer leading the San Francisco Symphony and Chorus. Intricate, well-crafted works like his clarinet concerto, *Gnarly Buttons* (1996), with Michael Collins as soloist, and the parodic 1992 *Chamber Symphony* are almost too knowing for their own good (Adams, London Symphony). The set also has 64 minutes of his second opera, *The Death of Klinghoffer* (1990-91), and 70 of his breakthrough first, *Nixon in China*.



Conductor/composer John Adams

(1985-86). Nonesuch also excerpts his curious and universally panned Broadway-style *I Was Looking at the Ceiling and Then I Saw the Sky* (1995), with sharply characterized turns by Audra McDonald and a fine cast.

But it's the occasional pieces like *Two Fanfares for Orchestra* (1986, De Waart, San Francisco Symphony) and *Fearful Symmetries* (1988, Adams, Orchestra of St. Luke's), with its joyful parade of textures and styles, which show that Adams' eclecticism isn't such a bad thing after all. Heard together, these pieces demonstrate a steady growth in orchestral fluency but not necessarily depth. A glaring exception is gay baritone Sanford Sylvan's extraordinarily moving performance of the Walt Whitman setting *The Wound-Dresser* (1989, Adams, Orchestra of St. Luke's), with its inescapable echoes of AIDS.

My review set had incomplete notes and credits, though a 200-page book accompanies the edition. ▼

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If Larry King were gay...

He'd be hosting 'Hibernia Beach Live'

by Mark Mardon

It was after midnight in the studio at LIVE 105 FM in San Francisco last August. In the control room, the ensemble cast of *Hibernia Beach Live* began the program as usual, welcoming their guests, taking calls, and responding to e-mailed questions. At the mics were Ken McPherson, the show's flamboyant gay creator and producer — he thinks of himself as "the Larry King of gay radio" — along with straight co-host Renee Rotten and gay sidekick Ben Carlson; also present were a couple of straight guys doing mostly off-air technical work, but who occasionally grabbed a mic to get into the act. After a bit of banter back and forth, McPherson got down to the usual order of business.

McPherson: Let's go to the phones and stick with them awhile. Carey in Marin, thanks for hanging on. What do you want to talk about tonight, Carey?

Carey in Marin [calling from a telephone booth, sounding like a very young teen]: Well, I wanted

to talk about frontal nudity with a man — why is that? I mean, there's always T&A, but there's never any penis.

Rotten: Wait, wait. Where is there never any penis?

Carey in Marin: In the movies!

McPherson: Ah, you don't see penises in the movies? I do. You must not have satellite. There's all

there's a big discrepancy.

Carey in Marin: If I was a lesbian, it would be great!

Rotten: It's just because men are the weaker sex and they have no confidence to show their bodies.

Carlson: You do not see vaginas in the movies.

Rotten: True, you don't see

Kids call in about masturbation, marijuana, their sucky boyfriends, their annoying parents, and what lesbians do in bed.

kinds of penii these days, it's great!

Carlson: I know whose penis you can see. You can see Ewan McGregor's penis in *Pillow Book*. You get such an eyeful!

McPherson: Carey, I kind of laughed at the beginning, but if what you're saying is, "Hey, maybe you do see the occasional penis fly by, but isn't there a discrepancy between the number of naked women and naked men?" Yeah,

vaginas.

Carey in Marin: No, you just see tits and ass. I'm sorry, I mean T&A.

Flaunting it

So went a typical exchange on a typical night at *Hibernia Beach Live*, the first gay and lesbian public affairs program ever to be broadcast regularly by a major radio station in a major metro-



Jane Philomen Cleland

Hibernia Beach Live's Ken McPherson

politan area. For 10 years, McPherson has been flaunting his queerness on the show, raising and addressing a host of gay issues along with broader questions about society, sexuality, politics and community affairs.

It began strictly as politics, as an outlet for local activists to address concerns, raised in the late 1980s by the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, about the station's lack of gay sensitivity. It has since broadened into a 3-hour talk-entertainment program attracting a large audience of teens and young adults of all sexual orientations, and whose goal is as much to entertain as to educate.

At the time of the show's inaugural broadcast in October 1989, McPherson was a leading activist within GLAAD, Mobilization Against AIDS, and other gay organizations. He felt a shift in the winds of gay activism: "I had become convinced things were going to go from being purely political to cultural. As an activist, I could create as much impact by getting my fingers in the cultural side of things as I could by trying to influence the California state legislature.

"There was an intensely political motivation to get our voice

page 52 ►

Joely Fisher

◀ Arts cover

Sally in this revival, and Fisher recently replaced Teri Hatcher in the touring edition. "Historically, with this production, they've cast non-singers," Fisher said. "Not everyone has heard me sing, but it's something that I do. And when I go to a Broadway show, I want to hear good singing."

Fisher, the daughter of Connie Stevens and Eddie Fisher, had her only other high-profile stage role playing a limited run as Rizzo in the Broadway revival of *Grease*. Her current assignment is more taxing on numerous levels.

"It's a marathon for me," Fisher said. "She sings, she dances, and she goes through an amazing journey. My Sally — I cannot speak for anybody else — loves life and decadence and is a survivor in some sort of way that's blind to the destruction she is causing herself and the people around her. It's a very hard role."

But the most challenging aspect, she said, is in having to recreate her performance night after night. "I had this weird conversation with my mother yesterday. She said, 'You've been doing it for two months, and you've probably done it the best you're going to.' But there is some new energy that changes the nature of the performance every night. That's the beauty of theater."

Family matters

Though she traveled as a child with her mother to nightclub dates, Fisher is finding the road a little lonely as a grown-up.

"When I was traveling with my mom, we were amused by someone or something daily," she said. "This is very different. I now have a family, a husband and two stepsons, and an amazing group of friends who I am not around right now. I'm great at room service, and I like to explore the towns I'm in, but I do spend a lot of time alone."

When she arrives in San Francisco, she expects to spend some time with her father, who makes his home in the Bay Area with his



Joely Fisher as nightclub singer Sally Bowles in Cabaret

fourth wife. She's been waiting to see Eddie Fisher again in person to ask him why he shoveled so much dirt in his new autobiography, *Been There, Done That* (St. Martin's Press).

"I was told by the co-author that the book was going to be a regretful look back and an apology and a making of amends, and from what I understand, that's not what it is," said Fisher, who acknowledged that she's only read the salacious bits excerpted in the press. "It just seems to me, don't tell tales out of school. For all the drug use, which he talks about a good deal, your memory can't be all that great. And there's a lot of stuff I've heard that is downright cruel. I just say, at 71 years old, why? What does that do for you?"

Eddie Fisher and Connie Stevens divorced when Joely was just 2, and she was reared exclusively by her mother. "I'm extremely proud to be the daughter to Connie Stevens," she said. "I have in recent years developed a relationship with my father. But before that, I was disappointed in him a good deal. It's funny. I have

finally found my own identity as a human being and as an artist, and suddenly my father writes a book, and I'm talking about my family again."

She isn't, however, tired of talking about *Ellen*. The show may have ended its run on a sour note, but that's not what sticks with Fisher. "You sort of remember what you choose to remember, and what I choose to remember is that we made television history," she said. "And I now have these amazing friendships with Ellen DeGeneres and Anne Heche and Betty DeGeneres."

In an interview with the *New York Daily News* last year, Fisher appeared to complain that the show had gotten "too gay."

"I think *Ellen* actually read that and said, 'What is this?' And I thought, God, this is how things can be misconstrued. I don't think I've ever said that about anything. I don't think anything in my life could be too gay." ▼

Cabaret will run at the Curran Theatre through Dec. 26.

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OUT & ABOUT

Fri 19
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Artist's reception: "Suicidal Tendencies," featuring new works by Scooter, one of the hottest young queer artists in the City. Free. 6pm-10pm. One night only. 483 Guerrero (btwn. 16th & 17th). Info: 563-5066.

Dance Mission Theater

Element Dance Theater performs "civ[ies]ed," incorporating aspects of modern, ballet and jazz dance, aerial work, video projection and live music. It explores the border between the animal and the human. Artistic di-

rection by Kristin Heavy. \$12-\$15 sliding. 8pm. Also on 11/20. 3316 24th St. (at Mission). 642-1082.

Rhythm & Motion Dance Center

Faustwork Mask Theater founder Rob Faust delivers a solo performance combining monologue, physical comedy, theater and dance. He makes all his own masks. \$12. 8pm. 1133 Mission St. (at 8th St.). Tix: 621-0643.

New Langton Arts

Tubist extraordinaire Tom Heasley performs solo and collaborative pieces with percussionist/composer Garth Powell and guitarist Ken Rosser.

Heasley actually sings through the mouth of the tuba, creating sounds indistinguishable from those of an electric guitar or drum set. \$8 (\$6 seniors/students). 8pm. 1246 Folsom St. 626-5416.

Paramount Theatre, Oakland

The Oakland East Bay Symphony opens its 1999-2000 season with Michael Morgan conducting Mozart's "Concerto for 2 Pianos" (1779) performed by Mark Anderson and Tamiko Siprashvili, and Beethoven's "Symphony No. 9" (1824), featuring soprano Peggy Kriha Dye, mezzo-soprano Sarah Blaize, tenor John G. Bellmer, baritone Armando Gama, and the Oakland Symphony Chorus. \$20-\$50. 8pm. 2025 Broadway (at 21st St.), Oakland. Tix: (510) 465-6400. Info: (510) 444-1801.

Fort Mason Center

Opening event: "Celebration of Indigenous Languages," an informal, three-day conference, including panel discussions and performances, honoring the indigenous traditions of the West. Sponsored by the Conference of Tlingit Tribes & Clans and a host of other Native American tribes and organizations. Free. 7:30-9:30pm. Also on 11/20 (9am-noon & 2-5pm) & 11/21 (9am-noon). The Firehouse. Info: (510) 549-3564.

California Pacific Medical Center

"An Evening of Tibetan Wisdom" presented by Josep Arnaia, M.D., author of Tibetan Wisdom for Western Life. Master the ancient art of Tibetan meditation to reduce stress and enhance your physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being. Sponsored by the Institute for Health & Healing at CPMC. \$12. 6-8pm. The Health & Healing Library, CPMC, 2040 Webster St. RSVP: 923-3681.

Sat 20
SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoor lovers for an overnight camping trip to Angel Island. After setting up camp, take a moderate 10 mile hike with an 800 ft. elevation gain. To reserve a space, call 252-7352. Meet 9am Pier 41/Blue & Gold Ferry. Cost is \$11 per person. Club info: 487-6410.

Lavender Lounge

"Art for Peanuts," organized by



Kristen Quok steps lively in *civ[ies]ed* at Dance Mission Theater. See Friday.

Chagada McIndoeus

Calendare by Mark Mardon



Tasha's Third Film by Larry Sultan, part of "Bay Area Now 2."

It's the now thing

San Francisco is awash in good art. How any artists at all can afford to live here these days, in light of the onslaught of neighborhood invading, SUV-driving, loft-dwelling e-commerce entrepreneurs, is almost beyond understanding (though the situation explains why so many artists prefer a snappy wit to a snappy dresser in the mayoral campaign). Fortunately, many outstanding painters, sculptors, photographers, poets, performers and the like do thrive here, however edgy their situations may be, giving museum and gallery curators a wealth of art treasures to sort through and place on exhibit.

One of the best showcases of local artists' work will be happening at **Yerba Buena Center for the Arts** beginning this Saturday, November 20 and running through February 13, 2000. "Bay Area Now 2" is aptly described as an art "festival," a word that captures the expansive flair of the exhibition. While its centerpiece is an extensive visual arts display, it encompasses a host of performances, educational programs and film screenings. All of its elements draw on the talents of Bay Area residents, placing "Bay Area Now 2" foremost among curated art events promoting our emerging and established talents. If you attend only one major art event in the city each year, this is the one to check out.

Works from more than 30 artists have been selected for display in the realms of painting, photography, video, digital art, film and site-specific installation. Represented in the YBC galleries will be such stellar names as **Larry Sultan, Rex Ray, Rachael Neubauer, Joyce Hsu, J. D. Beltran, Tino Rodriguez, John Bankston, and Bernie Lubell**, along with many others.

Among the notable personalities making special appearances during the festival are author **Kevin Killian** (he'll lead a gallery tour on Dec. 16); robot sculptor **Lewis deSoto**; YBC Visual Arts Curator **Rene de Guzman**; **Chicken John and Dammit the Wonder Dog**; composers **Brenda Schuman-Post** and **Sarah Michael**; performance artists **Nao Bustamante** and **Kathryn Williamson**; and the electronic-music duo **Matmos** (**Drew Daniels** and **m.c. Schmidt**).

The really big fun takes place at the opening preview and celebration on Friday, November 19 (8-11pm; \$10 general admission). There, members of YBC, the press, artists, art collectors, and art lovers in general will gather in the Grand Lobby for schmoozing, cruising, looking, and listening to music. Local bands **Saint André, Plain, Corner Tour, and The Deepthroats** will provide live tunes. Cleverly, the bands were chosen because each features a musician at least one of the visual artists in the show. Films will be screened that night in the screening room, so if you'd rather sit and watch than stand and chit-chat, you have that option. The climax of the evening will come at 10 p.m. when the **Paul Dresher Ensemble** plays in the Forum. Their work is highly sculptural, so the music fits right in. ▼

Michael Purcell, featuring paintings, clothing, handmade boxes, mixed DJ CDs, clocks, photography, sculpture, jewelry and much more at reduced prices (some as low as \$5-\$10; nothing over \$100). Artists include Joshua Smith, Jim James, Jim Jeske, Marcel, DJ Princess Petite, Purcell, and House of Strangelove Design, among others. Arrive early for best selection. 11am-7pm. Also on 11/21. 1044 Folsom (btwn. 6th & 7th). Info: 565-0925.

Yerba Buena Center

The Paul Dresher Ensemble presents "Intimate Immensity," featuring The Paul Dresher Ensemble Electro-Acoustic Band in concert with the Abel-Steinberg Duo, with David Abel on violin and Julie Steinberg on piano. \$18 (\$12 students/seniors).

8pm. The Forum at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. 978-ARTS.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Opening night: "Dream Boy," directed by Dan Oliverio, adapted by Eric Rosen from the 1995 southern gothic and homoerotic novel by Jim Grimsley. It recounts the story of a painful first love between two adolescent boys in the backwoods of North Carolina. \$13-\$22. 8pm. Thru 1/1/2000. 25 Van Ness Ave. 861-8972.



Suicidal Tendencies, by local badboy artist Scooter, shows one-day only at Build. See Friday.

Star Classics

"Instruments From the Far Corners of the Globe," featuring violinist Karen Bentley and percussionist Ian Dogle performing a veritable United Nations of instruments encompassing the diverse music cultures of the planet. \$10. 5pm. Star Classics Performance Hall, 425 Hayes St. (at Gough). 552-1110.

The Lab

"Shelter 8," an interdisciplinary millennial dream, in which you can celebrate your survival of "this chapter" of the Nuclear Age in a sentient glass fallout shelter, created by

Rika Ohara and her virtual performance company The Nuclear Family. It's a time-based installation incorporating imagery, sound to remind us of the iconographic persistence of the mushroom cloud. Sharing the bill is "Transitoire," by Randy Nordschow & Terri Morley, an interdisciplinary work constructed around a small moment of the Earth's rotation cycle. Scored for five acoustic guitars, a wind instrument, an amplified space heater, water, video projectors, and a collection of chronometers. \$7-\$10 sliding. 9:30pm. 2948 Sixteenth St. 864-8885.

Galería de la Raza

Opening reception: "iBomba" Latino erotica, juried and curated by members of Galería's (Re)Generation program for emerging artists. Featuring drawings, paintings and photographs. Also: "Mission Y2K," the first in a series of digital murals on La Galería's Bryant Street wall. Free. 6-8pm. 2857 24th St. (at Bryant). Info: 826-8009.

ATA Gallery

Other Cinema hosts the German *Wunderkind* of "Sad Sack" fame; Caspar Stracke, in town to premiere "Read Me," a 15-min. experimental work with George and Mike Kuchar, Rebecca Barten, Karen Redgreen, and Panos Panagis. Also selections of Stracke's other work, including "The Conference," an homage to Jacques Derrida. \$5. Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia St. 824-3890.

Fort Mason Center

Book sale to raise funds for the SF Public Library (no materials from the library's collections included), sponsored by Friends & Foundation of the SF Public Library. All books .50 cents or \$1. New books each day (also on Sun., 11/21). Building A. Info: 557-4257.

Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Club

Australian singer/songwriter Judy Small begins her North American tour with a concert of powerful social and political songs delivered in her eloquent, insightful and witty style. She just released her ninth album, *Let the Rainbow Shine*. \$15 advance; \$18 door. 7:30pm. 1650 Mtn. Blvd. Oakland. Tix: (510) 339-1832.

The California Club

"Queer Swing Dance," a monthly club offering beginning swing lessons (7-8:30pm; no partner necessary) and DJ dancing to '40s Big Band music until midnight. \$5-\$10 (NOTAFLOF). 1750 Clay St. (btwn. Polk & Van Ness). Info: 339-8103.

550 Barneveld

Gus presents "Metropolis," featuring the American debut of Tina Cousins, the chart-topping UK dance diva. With DJs Matt Consola, Phil B. and Derek (upstairs), plus the return of RKM. \$15. 10pm-6am. Between Oakdale and Industrial off Bayshore (follow the searchlights). Info: 646-0890.

Sun 21

715 Harrison

"Fourth Annual Miss Trannyshack Pageant," hosted by Official U.S.

Tranny Ambassador Heklina ("I do this for love, not money.") and the legendary Miss Juanita Morel. The competition will be vicious among this year's top eight tranny contenders. Witness the blinding beauty of Faye Lasho, Peggy L'Eggs, Mangela Lansbury, Barbara Jo, Blossom, Kimo, Phatima and Squaky Blonde. They'll be critically appraised by tranny judges Lady Sergio, Kennedy, Portia 666 and Johnny Kat. \$10 advance tix at A Different Light and NaNa in the Castro. \$12 door. Note the location (not The Stud). Info: 263-0980.

Belcher Studio Gallery

"Out of the Closet: A Photographic History of the Male Physique," curated by Willie Walker, presented by Don Spradlin and Nobis Beast Productions. Honored guest: photographer Tom Bianchi. A fundraiser for the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund and Gay & Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California. \$10 minimum donation requested. 6pm-9pm. 69 Belcher St. (behind Blockbuster Video at Market & Church). Info: 674-1214.

Palace of Fine Arts

Concert: "Masters of the Classical Music of North India," featuring Maestro Ali Akbar Khan on sarode and Zakir Hussain on tabla. \$40 reserved; \$25 gen.; \$20 students. 10am, 3301 Lyon St. Tix: 392-4400. Info: 454-6264.

A Different Light

"Mecca," the monthly open mic for writers, poets, musicians and all who want to share their work, hosted by Tommi Avicilli Mecca and John Tunui. Featured writer this month: Red Jordan Arobateau. Open mic follows. Free. 1pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

gap-a-rap

"Home for the Holidays: GAMs and Their Families," a frank discussion for gay Asian Pacific men about their personal family relationships. Sponsored by Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA). Meets monthly at members' homes. Food provided. 6pm. RSVP: 282-GAPA.

Howard Thurman Ritual Center, Oakland

"Native American Thanksgiving Ritual" with Peter Brockenleg & friends. Join Brockenleg and his friends from the University of Creation Spirituality in an evening of drumming, dance, song, and ritual. \$5-\$10 sliding donation. 4:30pm. Sweet's Ballroom, 1944 Broadway (at the 19th St. BART station), Oakland. Info: (510) 835-4827, ext. 10.



Kay White hands over her crown as glamour reigns supreme at the Fourth Annual Miss Trannyshack Pageant at 715 Harrison. See Sunday.

Mon 22

City College

"Sex Talk," the fall semester Safe Playshop organized by Project SAFE. The talk-show format encourages interaction among hosts, guests, and audience members in addressing issues of safer sex, HIV & STD transmission, safe-sex negotiation, and harm reduction. Topics include abstinence, monogamy, drugs and alcohol, communication skills, fantasy, erotica, S&M and more. Cookies, goodies, and lots of sexually charged discussion. Free. 1-2:30pm. Phelan Campus (50 Phelan Ave. at Ocean), Conlan Hall, Room E-107. Info: 241-2360.

Noh Space

Theater of Yugen and Asian American Dance Performances present Unbound Spirit in "re-visioning dances." Featuring works by choreographers Aileen Kim, Claudine Naganuma, Nancy Ng, and Chingchi Yu. \$10. 8pm. Project Artaud Complex, 2840 Mariposa St. Tix: 621-7987.

Tue 23

Orpheum Theatre

Relive a slice of the 1970s in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat" by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice. It's an old chestnut that desperately aims for hipness by showcasing the progeny of famous television families (Patrick Cassidy, son of Jack Cassidy and Shirley Jones of Partridge Family fame; and "The Osmond 2nd Generation," six sons of original Osmond Brother Alan). \$40. 7:30pm. Thru Dec. 5 (times & prices vary). 1192 Market St. (at Hyde & 8th). Tix: 512-7870.

Wed 24

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Preview: 42nd Street Moon revives the original Broadway version of Rodgers & Hart's "Babes in Arms." A group of teenagers, children of vaudeville performers, put on a show to stop the welfare department from sending them to a work farm on Long Island. Featuring such classic hits as "My Funny Valentine," "The Lady is a Tramp," and "Johnny One Note." \$12 (tonight and Fri. 2pm matinee). Through Jan. 2, 2000. 8pm. 25 Van Ness Ave. (at Market). 861-8972.

Thu 25

First Unitarian Universal Church

"Tenderloin Tessie's Holiday Dinners" presents a free Thanksgiving Dinner. To donate or volunteer call A.L. Allen at 621-1169 or Pushy Phillips at 863-5277. 1-4pm. 1187 Franklin Street (at Geary).

New Meat Campus Theater

Special Thanksgiving hours, 6pm-midnight, featuring a live 3-way including New Meat performers Richard Bangs and Stonie. A treat for flesh-hungry voyeurs. 220 Jones St. Info: 673-3384.

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Michael Purcell serves as ringmaster of Art for Peanuts, at the Lavender Lounge. See Saturday.

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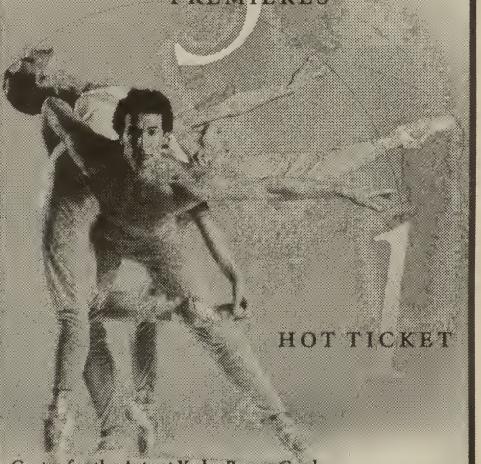
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Wendy Van Dyck, Lawrence Pech
and Galina Alexandrova
in Lawrence Pech's Critters
Photo: Walter Swardlow
©1999 Lawrence Pech Dance Company

Lawrence Pech

◀ Arts cover

up to announce that he was starting his own company. I told him I had only been joking, but it was too late. So I danced with him that first season, and then joined him as associate artistic director the next."

The fledgling company immediately garnered attention for its first seasons in 1996 and 1997 at Theater Artaud, and then, in November 1998, the Lawrence Pech Dance Company made its debut at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater, where they are also appearing for their 1999 season opening tonight (Thursday, November 18, running through Sunday, November 21).

As proof of the company's commitment to new choreography, the evening will offer five Bay Area or world premieres, and, as usual for them (and I don't say that lightly), two of the pieces on the program will be accompanied by live music. Both Van Dyke and Pech agree that "live music is so much of what the company is all about. We really listen deeply, as we both studied music. It's what makes us move."

Van Dyke adds, "I wouldn't be dancing if it weren't for the music. If it's sharp or flat or not together, it ruins it for me. It's equally important that the caliber of the music is up to the caliber of the dancing. Fortunately, the musicians we've been using for the last few times have been responding to our way of working and are involved with us, not just playing the notes."

"I've been having extra music rehearsals, where I go over the

tempi and accents and phrasing," says Pech, who is half a semester shy of receiving his degree in composition from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. (In 1990, after spinal cancer had eaten away one of his vertebrae, Pech, thinking he would no longer be able to dance, decided to pursue a different career.)

"The company is really strongly classically based, not that we wear tutus and stand turned out all the time, but that means the women wear pointe shoes and the vocabulary is derived from ballet. We want to keep the styles quite contrasting, but maybe we've gone a little too far over to the other side on the modern for this season. But, at the same time, I want to see the audience shake their heads — in a good way, of course, because what they see is new and different," says Pech.

Van Dyke continues, "It's pretty exciting to be working with new choreographers who aren't established with a long list of works. There is a young energetic collaborative aspect that we like."

Party people

Robert Moses, artistic director of his own San Francisco-based company Robert Moses' Kin, calls his first piece for LPDC "a departure for me. It's the first time I have worked with a real set and have completely integrated the set, costumes and choreography."

Initially Moses' idea for *Mis-chief*, set to music by Ennio Morricone, was "about people at a party who have drunk a little too much and have stayed a little too long, but haven't yet noticed that the bloom is off the rose, so to speak. It's not a character study, though, just an idea. Working



Kathleen Mitchell and Lawrence Pech in Lawrence Pech's *Critters*

LPDC, she also says that, basically, "I like to trust my gut instinct that it's fine the way it is. It's not ballet, so it's interesting to work with ballet dancers. I get them into distorted, Cubist shapes that have a two-dimensional quality. I am very detail-oriented, so it's important that they understand every nuance of the movement."

Pech will be premiering *Critters* to the music of Bay Area composer Cindy Cox, a piece which he created to fill a specific need in the repertory. "The rest of the program seemed dark, and I decided we could use something humorous to lighten it up, like having sorbet between those heavy meat dishes. So the pas de deux is a mating ritual for the praying mantis."

Rounding out the evening are Antonio Castillo's *Fratres* to a duet by Arvo Pärt and *Appalachia Waltz* choreographed by Ginger Thatcher to a score by Mark O'Connor. Combining the proficiency of the company's twelve dancers, half of whom previously danced with SF Ballet, with this diverse array of choreographic and musical styles should produce some very interesting results. ▼

with this company has been great. It's forced me to be clearer in my explanations about how I want the movement to look stylistically. They are ballet dancers [his own company is modern] and speak a different language, so there is a difference in accents. But they work really hard and respond to my coaching."

On the other hand, San Francisco Ballet principal dancer Julia Adam, who will be showing *Allegoria*, using composer Kevin Volans' "White Man Sleeps," doesn't like to reveal what her pieces are about. "The audience should

get what they want out of it. They should see what they want to see. I love having people tell me afterwards what they thought it was about."

Originally, Adam's piece was commissioned by Ballet Met in Columbus, Ohio, and it premiered there in February of this year. Adam choreographed it very quickly, and although she has made a few changes setting it on

Lawrence Pech Dance Company
performs at Yerba Buena
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Thursday, November 18
through Saturday, November
20 at 8 p.m., and Sunday,
November 21 at 2 p.m. Call
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Hibernia Beach

◀ page 49

out," says McPherson. "We felt we were being censored. So I rolled out of bed and did a half-hour interview each week, and suddenly I was in a position to call up anyone and meet them. At the time, there were lots of little gay radio shows around the country, but there had never been a gay radio show on a big radio station."

Yet "gay radio" hardly describes what *Hibernia Beach Live* has become since its inception. In a sense, *Hibernia Beach Live* is now a queer-friendly version of *Loverlines*, MTV's nationally syndicated radio and television call-in show, where hosts and guests in the studio field questions from the audience about sex and relationships.

"We have reinvented this show many times," McPherson says.

It began as a half-hour morning program focusing on politics, but after moving to a midnight slot and opening up to callers, it morphed into a talk show about drugs, sex, and other titillating topics.

"While we had thought we were attracting a gay audience," says McPherson, "suddenly just younger people started calling in, and they didn't give a shit what they were or we were. Half were gay, half were straight. We were kind of surprised. We wondered: Why are you asking us this stuff? We're just boobs on the radio. Then we said, 'What the hell,' and we started talking with them."

Towards insight

Not surprisingly, he observes, many of the young callers are questioning their sexuality. What they appreciate is the funny way McPherson interacts with them, all the while steering them toward valuable insights.

"I'm constantly amazed every week to get calls from 12- and 13-year-olds asking advice," McPherson says.

son says in his highly animated, high-pitched voice. "Most often the advice I give is that unless you know your parents real well, stay the fuck in the closet until you're in college, until you have some power. Can you trust your parents not to go off the deep end? Because many parents do, and you need to know that."

Actually, by law he isn't allowed to say "fuck" over the radio. Otherwise, the limitations are few. Kids call in about masturbation, marijuana, the latest headline news, their sucky boyfriends, their annoying parents, and what lesbians do in bed.

"We've never had a complaint from parents in 10 years," complains McPherson. "It drives me crazy!"

To liven things up, *Hibernia Beach* frequently hosts celebrity guests. One program, for instance, featured the members of the queer band Pansy Division live in the studio, and elder gay statesman Harry Hay live from LA by telephone. McPherson delights in having been able to introduce Hay and the Pansies to each other.

At least half of the show's listeners and callers identify as straight, which is why McPherson feels it's essential to have a straight woman as a co-host, as well as a couple of straight guys hanging around: "Because, you know, sometimes when straight girls call up, it's far better for a straight guy to get his two-cents in."

Now, however, McPherson is in a bind; Rotten recently accepted a job offer with a competing radio station, so *Hibernia Beach* is temporarily left with no straight female co-host to lure in the straight male listeners.

"I do think we need a heterosexual woman," says McPherson. "It opens our show up to the kinds of people who would say: 'I'm not going to listen to some gay guy.' As long as Renee's there, they don't care that I'm there. We're making it so that it's no longer reprehensible to have gay people around." ▼

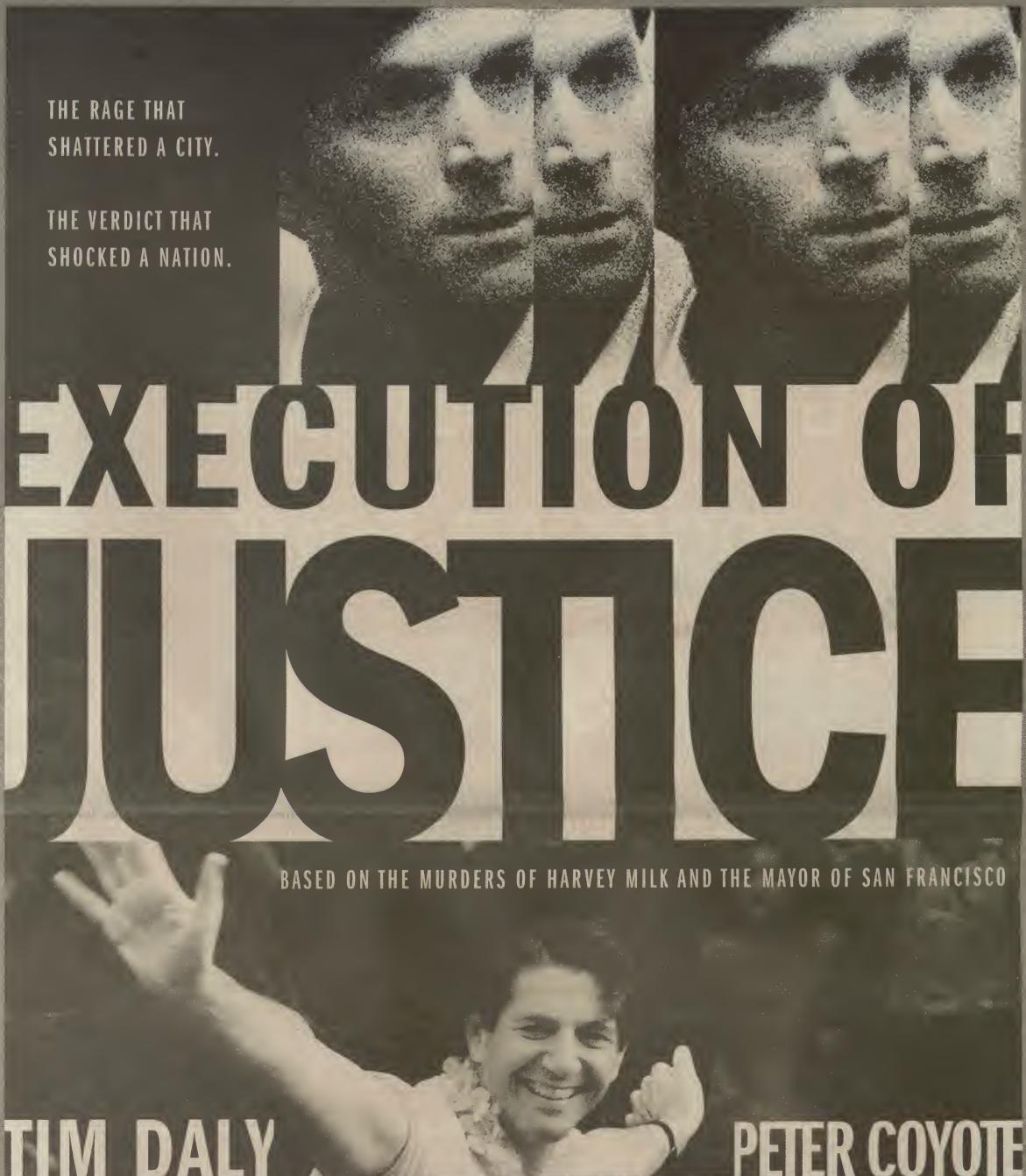
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Latin portraits

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Eminent Maricones: Arenas, Lorca, Puig, and Me by Jaime Manrique; The University of Wisconsin Press, \$19.95

When Bloomsbury intimate Lytton Strachey published *Eminent Victorians* in 1918, the book was notable not so much for what it said, but how it said it. Strachey's portraits of Victorian luminaries, which were clearly meant to deflate some popular myths, helped redefine the art biography. His memorably unflattering accounts of such people as Florence Nightingale also poked a substantial amount of fun at Victorian values. Jaime Manrique's *Eminent Maricones* is like Strachey's book in that it is also a collection of biographical accounts of the famous. Manrique admits that his title is an allusion to Strachey's book, but unlike Strachey, Manrique has mostly good things to say about the objects of his study. And unlike Strachey, Manrique is able to write his accounts (all but one) from a first-hand perspective.

Eminent Maricones is one of several titles from the University of Wisconsin series called "Living Out: Gay and Lesbian Autobiographies," edited by Joan Larkin and David Bergman. The series includes Martin Duberman's excellent book *Midlife Queer* and a

number of other titles. Manrique's book, which offers a significant amount of autobiography as well as biography, is a valuable contribution to the series, and is worthy of the company it keeps.

Manrique points out that the book's title is "oxymoronic," because the word "maricon" is the Spanish pejorative for homosexual, hardly a position of "eminence" in Latin American culture. The subjects of Manrique's biographies are united by the fact that all were homosexual men and prominent Latin American literary figures: Manuel Puig, Reinaldo Arenas, and Federico García Lorca. Puig and Arenas were personal friends of Manrique's. Lorca, who was murdered in 1936 by forces loyal to Spanish dictator Francisco Franco, was an important figure in Manrique's development as a writer.

Manrique begins and ends his book with meditations on his own development as a gay man and as a writer. The first part of the book, "Legs: A Memoir of Childhood and Adolescence," is a vivid, honest and poignant rendering of Manrique's formative years. He writes about his somewhat turbulent family life, his difficulties at school, and most of all, his struggles as a young gay man coming to terms with his sexuality. We've certainly heard that story before, but Manrique renders his personal tale in an engaging and not overly self-indulgent way.

Central to Manrique's story is the role of Latin American culture, and in particular, the Latin notions of manhood that make it so difficult for gay men there to come to terms with who they are. Manrique is no exception.

Fortunately, Manrique's love of literature provides a mechanism for self-exploration, self-expression and discovery. And it introduces him to some important gay male role models. His portrait of the Argentinean writer Manuel Puig is arguably the centerpiece of the book. Manrique portrays Puig with honesty, but with the love of a friend and fellow writer. Puig, who is perhaps most famous for his novel *Kiss of the Spider Woman* (which was made into a popular film and musical), comes across as an unashamed "diva" and an artist devoted to his craft. Manrique chronicles the peaks and valleys of Puig's career, and his somewhat mysterious death, but more importantly, he presents a moving personal portrait of a mentor and good friend.

Manrique's reminiscence of writer Reinaldo Arenas is somewhat hauntingly, from the point of Arenas's last days in his battle with AIDS. He acknowledges that they shared a strong bond as openly homosexual Latin American writers, and he unflinchingly recounts the events that lead up to Arenas's suicide.

He follows the tragedy of Are-



explications of Lorca's works. But it is also colored by the personal recollections of those who knew Lorca. Among these is Edouard Roditi's story of his affair with the doomed poet (a recollection that forms the basis of Manrique's poem, "My Night with Federico García Lorca," which is included in this chapter).

For those interested in Latin American literature, Manrique's book is indispensable. It provides rare and valuable perspective on some of the region's most important modern literary figures. For gay writers, the book is a useful study of an important part of gay literature. Manrique's book is concise and engagingly written, and it gives voice to an important part of the gay canon. ▼

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Justice vis-à-vis gays

by Marv. Shaw

The Constitutional Underclass by Evan Gerstman; University of Chicago Press, \$15

Subtitled *Gays, Lesbians, and the Failure of Class-Based Equal Protection*, this book is an analysis of how and why the currently operating system of justice is inadequate in protecting homosexuals' rights as citizens, and how jurisprudence could be revised to provide a more truly equitable system. Gerstman, formerly an attorney who practiced in New York and now an assistant professor of political science at

Loyola Marymount University, has done abundant research and applied an incisive mind to demonstrate the failings of the present system and propose a new one.

For the operation of those laws we understand as administrating equal protection for those identifiable classes who could be disadvantaged through discrimination, the law operates through a three-tiered system which identifies a class and gives a basis for reaching a verdict.

In this context, "class" is the term applied to the group in question. To be more specific, "suspect class" is the identifying term for a group of people eligible to have

their case brought to a court of law for adjudication.

It must be understood that "class" is not meant in the same sociological way that common parlance uses it, as a group of people identifiable by that complex of money, education and the like which makes them unique. But it does mean a group of citizens of unique identity which nominates them as having been disadvantaged and eligible for redress. A minority race could be a natural example. The goal is to reach a new position of equality with all other citizens.

The tiers forming the case are really varying procedures of page 60 ▶

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by Mister Marcus

Smilng faces plus lots of whooping and hollering filled Harvey's last Thursday night when the Board of Directors of SMMILE went through their annual benevolent ritual of distributing monies generated by the Dore Alley and Folsom Street Fairs last July and September respectively.

At first there were very audible gasps, then loud cheers, when the total amount to be distributed was announced as an astounding \$215,000! That's \$65,000 more than the record \$150,000 distributed in 1998.

Board president Paul Lester, ever unflappable, tiptoed nonchalantly through the list of amounts SMMILE was parcelling out among charitable organizations. He announced \$30,000 was going to Project Open Hand; \$25,000 each to the Community Center Project and Project Inform; and \$20,000 each to Frameline and



Mister Marcus

Mr. SF Leather Werner Tillinger, left, with Tony Bowser, announced that his Veteran's Day Benefit at the Edge last Thursday, Nov. 11, raised \$1,200 for charitable causes.

Positive Resource, The Stop AIDS Project received \$17,000, and New Leaf a respectable \$11,000.

In addition, funds were distributed to the beer and liquor groups (\$30,490); Bessie Carmichael School; SF Fire Dept.; SF Police Dept. Summer Fishing Program; and the Gay & Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California (\$10,000).

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence received \$16,993 for their charities as well. After all, they furnished a huge army of people to collect money at the gates.

Thanks to the great weather on both fair days, hundreds and hundreds of volunteers, and the dedication of the SMMILE Board members, the leather communities from around the world that converged on San Francisco for both fairs proved once again that leather pride has the power to move mountains.

Need I mention that Paul Lester has set an even higher goal for next year's street fairs? With his rate of success and the enthusiasm of a dynamic board, the events should indeed break records. It's all good: Countless

people, many of whom most of us will never know, are being taken care of with the funds raised at these fairs. I hope the Pantheon of Leather people are taking notes!

Beyond Faghdad

A half-dozen or so leather contests took place around the country over the past weekend.

First, know that in the Mr. Florida Leather Daddy contest held at the Full Moon Saloon in Orlando, San Francisco's Leather Daddy X Irwin Kane won the title, with Mauro Montoya (former Mid-Atlantic Leather winner) the runner-up.

In Ottawa, Dean Ross stepped aside and sashed his successor who turned out to be a 38-year-old student from Beijing, China by the name of Howard Hao. His mother was not amused, but his "adopted" mother, Vern Stewart, has things in hand. No surprise that La Vern is suddenly into Dim Sum on the hoof! The first runner-up was Sebastian Saulnier (a real cutie, they say) and for the third year in a row and the second runner-up was James Morgan.

next page ►



Papa Tony

Dorothy "Doe" Blake was named Ms. San Diego Leather 1999 on Saturday, Nov. 6. She will compete for the IMsL 2000 title in Toronto next July.

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Friday, November 19

You're invited to a "cigar" party (yeah, right) at The Sling tonight with doors open from 2200 to 0200 and a \$12 donation requested. Call 292-2375.

Saturday, November 20

Congratulations to the Golden Gate Guards MC, tonight celebrating their 13th anniversary at the Eagle, from 1900-2200. Admission is by invitation or your club overlay. No host bar. Desserts.

Turkey bowling at River Business in Guerneville, with a new twist: you throw frozen turkeys at the bowling pins!

In San Jose, it's a "Boots to Brim III" beer/soda bust at the Foxtail Lounge for \$5 and raffles to benefit title holders.

Bears of SF beer/soda bust at the Lone Star for \$7, from 1500-1900, to benefit Project Open Hand. Bring non-perishable food in plastic (no glass) and get five free raffle tickets.

Sunday, November 21

GDI's Butch Brunch for \$7 advance/\$10 door at SFPQA Hall (510 Seventh St.) and the Mr. GDI Leather Contest emceed by outgoing Mike Floyd and other title holders as judges. Don't miss this one!

The 15 Association beer/soda bust at the Eagle, 1500-1800, \$8, food, and a bondage contest. Show your stuff!

Wednesday, November 24

Leather Buddies at 933 Harrison. You know the rules: wear boots, no cologne, and load up on Butch pills. Call 863-HEAD.

Weekend November 25-28

Mr. Toronto Leatherman Contest and lots of events. I'll be on the judging panel to help pick Chris Holmgren's successor.

In Washington, D.C., the Mr. DC Eagle 28th anniversary. Congrats!

Climactic opening on Polk

by Sweet Lips

Pinch yourselves, kids, it's finally going to happen. After much drum-beating and ballyhoo in the press, mostly in this column (come to think of it, only in this column), the beautiful all-new Club Rendez-Vous will be opening its doors at 1312 Polk St. at 4 p.m. on Friday, November 19. Yes, don't worry, Yours Truly will be working the bar from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., starting Saturday, Nov. 20. David Kapp has put together a spectacular new venue. Watch for the "Original 49ers Games" on Polkstrasse.

In other news, it's almost Turkey Time, isn't it? Chef Dennis "Gherkins 'n' Jerkins" Tyler will be catering two fabulous Thanksgiving Day buffets this year. The Giraffe on Polkstrasse will be having theirs at 3:30 p.m., and it will be bountiful. The Lone Star Saloon will be having their buffet at 5 p.m., and manager Jerry Olson invites one



The Club Hacienda circa late 1940s, now the new Club Rendez-Vous.

and all.

You can still find gregarious Woody on the plank, afternoons at the Cinch Saloon on upper Polkstrasse.

Dear readers, you are all cordially invited to the Club Rendez-Vous on Sunday, November 28, 2-6 p.m. to help celebrate

Sweet Lips' 77th birthday (Oh, God!), catered by chef Dennis "Pickles 'n' Nickels" Tyler. David Kapp promises lots of surprises.

Then, two days later, Bart Dreyer, Dick Deemer and La Lips herself are off on a truly-deserved vacation — again — in lovely Puerto Vallarta, down Mexico way. We'll be joining BAR political editor Wayne Friday, who will already be there for his birthday. Meanwhile, Happy Thanksgiving. ▼

Cocktail Hour

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

In Baltimore on Saturday, David Allen reportedly gave a stirring stepping-down speech before he laid the sash on Robert Guenther as the Mr. Maryland Leather 1999-2000. Doug Gatewood was the runner-up. Queen Cougar and Mark Malan did the emcees honors. Thanks, David, for a sterling year with the title!

In New Orleans, the delightful Lorrie Lind was eloquent in her stepping aside speech before laying the sash on Alisa Swindell — a woman from the Deep South who will be vying for the Int'l. Ms. Leather title in Toronto next July. Alisa is a native of New Orleans.

In Chicago, at the world-famous Cell Block Bar, Thomas Smith stepped aside from his Mr. Int'l. Rubber title and sashed Thomas Kelley of Morris County, New Jersey as the 2000 title holder. They say he's cute as a bug's ear and is a member of GMSMA in New York.

Conflicting reports came to

me on the outcome of the Mr. Gotham Leather contest in New York City on Friday night. One source says the winner's name is Bobby Hancock, and another says it's someone else. Neither Defenders NY nor GMSMA bothered to send out any results about their Mr. Gotham NY contest, but people who were there say it was the most class-less contest they have ever attended.

For instance, Int'l. Mr. Leather Bruce Chopnik was obliged pay for his dinner (he was one of the judges and paid most of his own airfare to get there), and the judges didn't even have a table on which to write their scores. Former Mr. NY Leather, Joe Gallagher (and Int'l. Mr. Leather 96) was treated rather shabbily, and now I know why the theme of their contest was "Indulgence." Good luck in Chicago, Mr. Hancock, or whoever the winner is. Tsk-Tsk.

From Daddy's to the Edge

The Daddy's Bar 4th Anniversary parties on Monday and Tuesday last week were exercises in

madness as crowds converged on the popular watering hole to help Daddy Philip and his staff celebrate. Of course, now that manager Ed Morgan is off to another career, Philip is busy as a beaver. Lots of prizes, lots of announcements and Peter Fiske was named Daddy of the Year and (Emperor) T.J. Istvan was voted Employee of the Year. Lots of partying and carrying on and best wishes for continued success.

On Thursday night, after the big SMMILE giveaway at Harvey's, most everyone sashayed up the street to the Edge where Mr. San Francisco Leather Werner Tillinger was hosting his Veteran's Day beer/soda bust. T.J. Istvan and Sheba knocked 'em dead with some upbeat thrillers, which were especially well-received after a dirge of sad cowboy songs. Aren't there any upbeat CW songs in your repertoire, Charlie?

The ubiquitous Keith Truitt played "Van" (not "Vana") with Werner for the numerous drawings, and in the end some \$1,200 was raised for the SLDN. Bravo! It was a great night in the Disastro. ▼

FILM

The Hollow men



Bill Bradley may be an old Knick, but we wonder if he knows that the term Knickerbocker first came into usage from Washington Irving's fanciful history of the Knickerbockers, fictional early Dutch settlers of New Amsterdam. Irving's classic tale *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* is the basis of the new Tim Burton flick *Sleepy Hollow*, starring the sultry Johnny Depp (left, as Ichabod Crane), the yummy Casper Van Dien (center, as Brom) and the terrific Christina Ricci (right, as Katrina Van Tassel). Opens Friday in wide release.

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PARTING GLANCES

Market Street @ Noon, Sat. Oct. 2 You: driving down Market Street. White male in a white BMW convertible, 325i. Me: Green Range Rover, we looked at each other. Would like to connect. ☎ 9800

Waterworld Spoke to you about your tattoos as I was leaving. Didn't have pen & paper. Would love to meet again. Call me. Clarke. ☎ 9807

Embarcadero Center Oct 7th 3-3:30pm Davis Street bwn. Emb. 1 & 3, at one point we walked side by side. Not the first time we have crossed. Would you like to meet? ☎ 9802

Randy At Daddy's And The Edge You: blond, smooth, flat top. You liked my hairy head. Love yours, too? Again? No BF this time!!! ☎ 9803

Market & 16th 10/6/99 3:45pm You drove by in a green Honda. Me: yellow shorts, grey sweat shirt, shaved head, goatee, want a closer look? I do. ☎ 9804

WaterGarden Sun. Oct. 2, You hot buffed Hispanic. I was the Hispanic guy who's room you walked into. #6 you made a certain request and I agreed to it. You said, you would be back, Give me a chance. ☎ 9805

Castro Street Fair Bead Dick Toss Your fatigues, no shirt, goatee. You: long goatee, camouflages suit, tattoos. I noticed you several times and liked what I saw. Would like to meet. Call me. ☎ 9806

Castro Barber Shop Tu 10/26 You getting head shave, my haircut next seat over- xchng glances, Date? ☎ 1104

Gil On Halloween! We met at the Rainbow and I had a great time, but I didn't get your name! Call me- I won't be "SCARY!" ☎ 1102

Baker Beach Sat Oct 16 You: Shirtless, low-slung, baggy jeans with toddler son? dark hair, bandana, dark shades. I: Blue shorts, short brown hair. You said "bye water." I said nothing. Please call. Randall. ☎ 9900

Book Fair And Dore Alley We traded looks at both events. 10/16, you were working. I have a beard, buzzed hair, glasses, keys left. I would like to know who you are. ☎ 9901

Moby Dicks Pool Sharks Oct. 12 Do you play pool at Moby Dicks wearing skimpy white see thru shirt. Me: blond pinball wizard blushed every time our eyes met. Call me. ☎ 9904

Vibrant Health Wed. Aft 10-20-99 Took a walk, got lost in the hotel. Got drinks at Union Square. Talk was good real thing great. Ready for the next fantasy? ☎ 9903

Montgomery Muni-Castro, Mon 11-1 4:45pm You: sitting, brown hair, goatee, sublime. Me: tall, dark blond with: roommate, couldn't follow you looking back. Ouch! Dinner? ☎ 1200

You Live On 18th Street Met at The Cafe in March. You're from New York, currently live in San Francisco on 18th Street. You said I was handsome, I was with a date. Can't stop thinking about you. ☎ 1100

Golds Gym Sat Evening 10/23 We both knees in the sauna. You: beautiful bleached blond w/dark roots. Me: dark hair, tattoo/left arm. You wore a turtle-neck when you left? Interested? Let's meet. ☎ 1005

SFMOMA-Cremaster Video 10-24 You explained the finger points, can we continue the discussion over dinner? I'd love to see your smile again. ☎ 1101

Eliza's Sun, 10/10, 1-2pm, Potrero You and three friends sat at table in front of restaurant. Me: young Eurasian in shorts. You: GWM with gorgeous blue eyes. Our eyes met as I walked out. Date?? ☎ 9902

Philip At GG Bridge Beach 10/24 Met you a second time at the beach this year but my timing was off again. Beach season's ending. I'd love to hook up. Call me, Lyle. ☎ 1103

Black Sands Beach Sun 10/17 We left, at the same time. You drove white truck with Michigan plates. I followed until turnoff. We waved. Let's exchange more than glances. ☎ 1001

Same Name Sun 10/13 Nob Hill Took a walk, got lost in the hotel. Got drinks at Union Square. Talk was good real thing great. Ready for the next fantasy? ☎ 9903

Montgomery Muni-Castro, Mon 11-1 4:45pm You: sitting, brown hair, goatee, sublime. Me: tall, dark blond with: roommate, couldn't follow you looking back. Ouch! Dinner? ☎ 1200

Met U On Muni W/Your Dog Sun 11/7 Our meeting got cut short with your stop at Church. I'd love to meet again and do more than just smile. I'm the blonde who asked to pet your dog. ☎ 1201

Ken- We Met You On Sat, Oct 30 You called us on Wed, Nov 3. We got # wrong. Please call John & Steve. ☎ 1202

Vacaville Outlet Monday 11/1 You: hunk, shaved head with friend. Me: white t-shirt and goatee with brother. I should have said hello in addition to smiling. Now I want to say hello and... ☎ 1205

18 To 24? Ideal!.... For incestuous fling (sucking/rimming/piss/w/ trim/attr/ undaddiesque dad 7); looks maybe 59; still get calls from ex boyfriends to suck them off! ☎ 9816

Attractive Latino Googlooking 34yo attractive Latino, 5'7", 150# dark hair goatee, professional, looking for GWM-between 26-39yo, for friendship or more. Me: like dinner, movies, traveling, hiking, biking. Call me. ☎ 9815

Country Boy Seeks Adventurer Masc, open-minded, stable man 40-55 sought by blond, blue 5'10", 170#, 41, fit healthy pox for tranquil country weekends, electric city nights. Let's make mischief! ☎ 9911

Goodlooking Muscular Eurasian Early 30's ISO attractive, fun, romantic, in-shape, intelligent men of any background. For dating, and possible LTR. ☎ 9912

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Average Guy Seeks Average Guy GWM 55, 5'10" 190lbs, enjoys movies, long walks, talks, most music, good food, old fashioned romance, would like to meet men with similar feelings 35+ ns, Id. Anyone out there? ☎ 9913

Second Chance In Romance 39yo Asian, Foster Parent, no drugs, alcohol, lite gay scene, HIV- would like to meet GWM 35-50yo for urban adventures. Bear cubs preferred. ☎ 9914

Old-Fashioned Romance Intelligent, loving GWM, 5'9", 150# gym toned, slim body, 48, interested in life's deeper meanings and finding a caring, committed relationship with someone 30 to 40, slim, healthy, no drugs or smoke. ☎ 9915

African American Cutie Educated 28, 5'6", 170 seek a LTR/friendship/w/gays 23-35 who is HIV- down to earth, intelligent & honest. I enjoy movies, dancing, cooking, beachwalks, cultural events. Serious only! ☎ 9916

Datin N Romance Only ISO dates with L/A/F, not one nighters. Enjoy movies, cuisine, and rollerblading. Me: Latin-Javajo, 5'6", 155#. ISO similar for on-going fun times in all ways. ☎ 9917

Palo Alto: GAM Needs To Get boned by average to well endowment. 41, 5'11", 190, your place. ☎ 9918

First Time Ad GWM, early 40's, 5'11", 205#, professional, financially secure. Seeks GWM, 25-40, HIV-, non-smoker. Recently out of LTR. Blond/blue a plus. ☎ 1006

I Have A Bear Magazine Look GWM 45-50, 5'9" HIV-, hairy, husky, mustache, balding looks guy 20 to 30 w/ attractive boyish looks, for possible relationship. ☎ 1007

Friendship And Sex Seeking both, WM: bottom. You: 55-56, white, bottom. Let's have dinner, drinks, smoke, conversation and good sex. Please be 5'10" or less. Not thin, no beard and sensitive nips. ☎ 1008

Hairy Little Fuckbuddy Wanted Boomer, 5'8", 135, muscled, very hairy, shaved head, goatee, average cut tool, HIV+: Want same or shorter HIV+ fuckbuddy, muscled and hairy, for frequent latex-free butt-fudging. ☎ 1009

Bear Seeking Bear In South Bay 30-40 hair chest & ass w/bootee. I am 6'1" 225, brown, blue, appliances man for Gregg's 20+ & appliance in Palo Alto area. ☎ 1010

Snuggle Buddy Wanted 41, GWM, 6', 250bs, half-Italian/half-German HIV+, wants to physically relate with GWM or similar build fully clothed. Love cuddling in front of television. ☎ 1011

Double Your Fun Two friends, GAM, 56, 5'8", 135, bi/bm, HIV+ and GWM, 53, 5'8", 185, brn/bl, HIV- each seek a separate relationship with the same loving and affectionate gay male. ☎ 1012

WLM, 43, 6'160bs. ISO..... Husky or heavyset men with huge bellies for lots of deep kissing, holding, oral action. Facial hair, rugged looks S/F. boy-next-door type. I enjoy travel, concerts, and good living. ☎ 1013

Handsome Hung Russian Teacher Russian top to teach me his language. I am HIV+ and full of life. Age not important, but quality is. Tops only. ☎ 1014

College Students 18-25 young males for honest clean safe sex and foreplay. HIV- and clean hygiene is a plus. GBM, 5'10", 220, ch50%, 9"-10", and 7" round, clean, HIV- aggressive, gentle. ☎ 1105

Virgin Buns Dancers, Porn Stars and Body-builders for safe sex and possible friendship. GMB, 48, goodlooking, aggressive, strong, ch.50%, HIV- love buns and big quarter size nipples. No fats. ☎ 1106

Are You Tall In Body & Spirit? I love tall, lean or athletic guys with a big, compassionate heart. 28-35. I'm 30, 5'8", athletic- medium build, br/bcute face, spiritual, intellectual, artistic, adventurous, great kisser, sexy, monogamous. ☎ 1107

Friendship Wanted GWM, 39, 5'11", 175, looking for new friends, 35-45 professional, blue eyes, sincere. Into outdoors, cooking, cultural events. ☎ 1108

Asian ISO Black GAM around 40s seeks Black male friend, possibly LTR, no overweight, please be sincere only. N/S, N/D, not pels. ☎ 1109

Here I Am! East Bay White male, hung, versatile, 5'8", 155-50's, HIV-, ISO Blacks, Asians, White, HIV-, age/looks not important but please no BS. Be down-to-earth and sincere. ☎ 1110

Wanted Mature Man
WM seeking casual relationship with a clean, trim, muscular man, late 50s to 60s who enjoys receiving oral service. If interested, call me! Your place, no reciprocation necessary. ☎ 1208

Asian And Black Tops
This GWM 6' 165lbs. would like you to lay down while I suck you deep. When ready- you can fuck me. I can give me. Your sex object. ☎ 1209

Chubby Guy Mst Glasses HIV- 48
Attractive ISO affectionate, stable, committed partner. Be considerate, easy going, sexually versatile, am moderately hairy. Serious only. No drugs. ☎ 1210

Seeking Smooth Cub Trainee
WM bear 48, 5'8", 230lb HIV- looking for loyal cub 25-40, HIV- for regular service. Esp like smooth, quick cummers, ex-Marines, Latinos. ☎ 1211

Spank Me
Cute little frat boy 22, blonde hair with a nice smooth chest, gym-body, needs over the knee action from dominant big brother 18-35 only please. China Town. ☎ 1212

Quiet Type
Quiet ISO spirited ISO quiet. Pos, mid-life, trim, varied interests. ☎ 1213

GWM-Pure Heart, Dirty Mind
Desires erotically charged romantic entanglement with adorable charmer. Smart, handsome, talented, hairy-chested HIV+ with top, 35, 6'1", 165; juggling healthy pairbond instinct with oversexed imagination. Wanna shatter some rules? ☎ 1214

Looking For A Good Man
Me: 32, 5'11" 180lbs. GYM toned, HIV+ and healthy, ready to have fun again. You: mature, responsible and good top. ☎ 1215

Asian Top Wanted
Heavyset WM bottom, 38, 6'3" 280lbs looking for possible LTR. Likes: reading, classic movies, hand holding. Be romantic and sincere. ☎ 1216

More Treat Than Trick
Cute blonde GWM (6'1", 175#, boyish) seeks romance with handsome thirtysomething guy. Interest and attitudes negotiable. (though books, classical music, the outdoors). ☎ 1217

Good Guy Blues
This cute, warm hearted, nice guy, GWM, mid 30's, into Christmas, carpenters and coffee, seeks a nice guy to love, laugh, play and will invite in for milk and cookies. ☎ 1218

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Sexy SFWM Provides Asian Stud
Service to slim smooth young sexy Asian bottoms. I am 5'10", 165#, Italian, 8" cut. I will rim your ass & fuck you hard. ☎ 9824

Natural Or Buffed Beefy Butt
Cheeks soothed and smoothed by oral massage, palms, thumbs, and goatee. Very private, same; shyer guys will be able to relax here. I love eating ass. Give a call. ☎ 9825

Hugs And Kisses Come First
Looking for extended periods of deep kissing, touching and cuddling. Oral or J/O finish. You: attrac., GYM (White, Asian, Latin), slim, nice burns. Me: attrac., GWM, 46, 6'5", 250lbs, husky build. LTR. ☎ 1022

Young Handsome Russian
Very cute intelligent 26yo. Russian bottom is seeking wild passionate sex with other Russians or Europeans under 35. You won't be disappointed. ☎ 9925

Lean Or Muscular Fuck Btm Boy
Dominant stud, 6'1", 195#, muscular, early 40s. 8" dick seeks defined, low body fat, "boy" 25-40 who loves to get fucked and give head. ☎ 9921

Dad Spanks Bottom Boys
Welcome. Dad- GWM, 46, 6'5" 250lbs. Limits expected. You: attractive GM (White, Asian, Latin), slim, smooth/moderate bodyhair, nice buns. ☎ 9835

Oral Slave Needed
50yo/6' 155lbs slim HIV- White male seeks guy male 35yo/6 to 60 HIV-. To suck his 7 1/2 uncut and eat his hairy ass. ☎ 9827

Role Reversal
Dominant dad, 60, 5'10", 185, bearded, hairy. Looking for son/or to take charge, turn me into your bottom dog. ☎ 9828

Dick Size Doesn't Matter!
No, it needn't be "long enough to reach the ground." (Lincoln), but the better I've sucked you off the bigger your loads- the proof of the pudding! ☎ 9829

Latino Seeks Blonde Top
Latino 40yrs 220lbs, goodlooking, muscular, masculine HIV- looking for a blonde top 25-40 skinny a plus others many respond also. ☎ 9830

Needs Attention, Please
6 1/2" x 5 1/2" hard cut poker, looking for gay male that needs facial and/or bearing by 6', 200# average GWM 50's, HIV- smoker, nongym, aromas ok. ☎ 9831

Rough And Ready Top
Lt 50's, 5'10", 185, shirt silver/gray, goatee, 6'1", hairy legs, cute, stocky. US: 5'10", nice cut dick. Aroma ok, nd, ns. ☎ 9834

Black/White Ass Play & XXX Fun
GWM 46 masculine, healthy, uninhibited, hung and HIV+ bottom seeks GWM for hot J/O videos, nude beaches, dildo play. Let's do it outdoors. Palo Alto area. ☎ 9919

Will Suck Your Uncut Cock At:
My flat- Noe Valley. Older very welcome. Straight welcome. 21st @ Douglass. Regular basis? I'm HIV-. ☎ 9920

Smokers
WLM 45, 6', 160lbs. ISO other smokers or tolerant non-smokers for sensual kissing, holding & oral action. Husky, non-buffed, facial hair, over 40 A+. No gay scene, gyms, drugs. ☎ 9922

Top Stud ISO Asian Boy Toy
Hot SFWM needs slim, smooth Asian bottom to service my needs. Am cute/healthy/young + big. ☎ 9923

Hot White Or Latino Bottoms
Wanted by 55yr old White male 6'0", 170lbs. 9" cut cock, drik b'm hair, blue eyes, glasses, wants to fuck a hot White/Latino under 40. ☎ 9924

Sex/WM For Asian
GWM, 6', 200#, hairy, salt/pepper hair, goatee, tattoo, 43, well built top looking for muscular men who want a lot of attention paid to their pecs/nipples. ☎ 1020

East Bay ISO Top U/C Latin Top
To service your amputals, cock, balls and ass with tongue/ mouth and get a good ride with your rod. I'm White 6', 155# brown/blue, HIV-. ☎ 9926

Hot Hole On The Island?
Middle age but endowed top , seeks masculine, mature, submissive men who need their holes filled, front or back, skin on skin, zip 94501. ☎ 9927

I Got A Hot Ass To Fuck
GWM 50/5' HIV-, 174lbs. n/s, n/d. I like to suck cock and get fuck by 7" in or 8" dick and other things that go with it. Age, factor or race. Let's watch videos together. ☎ 9928

Hot Hairy Muscle Top
5'9", 170lbs mid 40s dark hair eyes 9' uncirc. penis. White, Asian, Latin guys, 21-35. Slim bottoms. Cum on it. ☎ 9929

East Bay Fuck Buddy Wanted
Handsome, masculine WLM, 41, looks younger, 6'0", 175# lives in Oakland, looking for masculine, 35-40y Black male, masculine. ☎ 9930

Give Me A Good Ride
Well built top/vers, hung big is looking for well built men (20-30's), hairy to sit on my face and cock for a good ride. ☎ 9931

Seeking Anyone W/ A Big Butt!
I love bb's and I'll even pay for it! Packing 180-200 pounds big and able to use this 9 1/2-10 inches and his tongue, wild 4 u! Freaky too.... ☎ 9932

Mostly Toothless
65, 60ish, healthy senior guy, 69 unclothed, wd. Love to hook up with congenital junior guy in similar condition for prolonged mutual oral affection. ☎ 1015

Versatile Fuck In The City
Horny, wants good looking masculine men to pump full of squirt. Also love to get massaged and jerked off -anytime. ☎ 1016

Golden Opportunity
For thirsty man. Aussie guy, 56, can visit San Francisco for wet weekends. Older defined guys welcome. Time for a hot shower? Call me! ☎ 1017

Cockslucker On Call
Need a deep throat expert? 5'8" hairy stache needs dick on a daily basis. Hung & Blcks A+++. ☎ 1018

Asian Needs TLC
By fit GWM with hot mouth. Me: 5'7", 135#, 35 clean cut, needs lots of attention. ☎ 1019

I Want Your Dick
Lean well hung face fuckers 30s-40s unload with great cockslucker! dad 48 my place in SF. Facial hair, active oral tops A+. Repeat service for hot guys. ☎ 1021

Submissive Person Wanted
Young, looking-acting understand. 30's GWM seeks 18-45 gay or bi-curious g'dlk's man for fantasies: Daddy-son, master-slave, pigboy, or just plainsex. Will. ☎ 1023

Have It His Way
Surrender control to this handsome Asian/Hawaiian hunk, 37, with chiseled muscular physique. Love to pump your face and butt. Want to get tied up and used enthusiastically? He will make you cum helplessly! ☎ 1024

Your Dick In My Mouth
And no teeth (no scraping or scratching). Good looking 64y, 5'8", 165 GWM seeks masculine GWM. ☎ 1117

Pec/Nipple Worship
GWM, 6', 200#, hairy, salt/pepper hair, goatee, tattoo, 43, well built top looking for muscular men who want a lot of attention paid to their pecs/nipples. ☎ 1020

Total Anal Bottom Bear
5'10", 195#, GWM, 48. Me: lie on my belly, get my talented asshole fucked long and hard. You: horny, as fucker top- any age, race, Dildos a plus! ☎ 1111

Exhibitionist
Walking around naked get you stiff? Enjoy showing off? Strutting your stuff? Posing? Being admired, stroked up? Handsome GWM, 40s, tall and trim, enjoys watching and sketching gay/bi or str8 dudes. Erotic massage optional. ☎ 1112

Black Bottom Seeks Top
Dominant aggressive top a plus, verbal top a plus, raunchy, kink, sleaze, fetish role playing a plus. Some eve & weekends. ☎ 1113

Married WM Will Pay \$50/Time
To suck masculine Black man. Daytimes- 2-2 times monthly. Prefer clean, clean, safe, your place/arranged. Uninhibited, no hassles. No shaved pubes. Am 40s, nice guy. ☎ 1114

Ass/Mind Stretching Top Pigs
Experienced good looking 40's submissive bottom seeks dominance and humiliation by aggressive plowman. Control my mind and body for your pleasure. WS, Fetish, bad habits A++ ☎ 1115

Horn-Dog Retards,
I'm GWM 55 with big hands, wrist want GWM 40 + FFB with wide hole for exploration and fun. ☎ 9837

Bondage Top
Experienced bondage top, 45, 5'8", 155, attractive, seeks submissive, obedient, masculine, in-shape bottom, 25-45, for erotic bondage and play. Safe, discrete, S.F., East Bay. ☎ 9838

Sonoma County Body Worship
Cute, slender guys 18-30 will be thoroughly appreciated by this nice-looking, healthy, generous, fun, middle-aged GWM. Daytimes only. Your place, mine, or my van. No reciprocation necessary. ☎ 9839

Butchies
Into big butts on hairy White guys, 35, in S.F. or Peninsula, to suck & cum on me. Me: GWM, 46, lean, great chest, hairy, cut, horny, attractive +, fun. ☎ 9840

48 GBM Large Cock
9' to 10" long and 7" round. Big swollen nipples, big muscle ch 50". Love to fuck nice round ass. Seeking 18-30, HIV-, big swollen nipples, clean hygiene. ☎ 1116

Kick Back!
GWM, nice, friendly guy lov to play with and suck cock. Seek straight, bi, gay masculine, in-shape guy. Tell me what you like. Let's have fun. ☎ 1118

Seeking Flexing Bodybuilder
Looking for big muscle into showing off it. Big sex and sensitive nips a plus. Me: 6'2", 190 wellbuilt, lean, handsome, hairy, HIV-, discreet. Flex sex. ☎ 1119

Uncut Boys Who Like Big Dick
In their mouths & buns wanted by handsome uncle type in SF, 40, 6', 180# White, tatas, 9" cut fat dick, watch porno, feed me your foreskin, bend over & fuck & suck me. ☎ 1220

Master 68 ISO Slaveboy 25-45
Must be able to relocate to So. Oregon and have car B/D, S/M, water sports, spanking, smooth hard body pierced nipples a plus, HIV- apply Sir. ☎ 9932

Masc ISO B Bellies
Masculine muscle bi male wants big boys for sucking and fucking hairy A+ -daytime w me or nights w bear part. ☎ 9936

Sheer Socks & Barefoot Fetish
Get you turned on by looking at bare feet on goodlooking in-shape guys? Do you like the idea of touching each others naked feet? ☎ 9937

Man W/Tos Ring Sks Foot Partner
Lifelong excitement looking at fantasizing about men's barefoot, masculine, goodlooking East Bay GWM, 5'9", 140#, tan, moderately hairy, HIV-, loves reciprocal kissing, licking, massaging barefoot, safe J/O. Any race. Cut preferred. ☎ 1231

Tongue ISO Protruding Ass-Hole
Ub thin or wiry LM/WM Mid-Eastern w/clean hole & like sitting on hairy WM face w/reactive tongue & lot of suction. Love "lippy" ass-hole! ☎ 9935

Daytime Asshole-Eater!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro! ☎ 1233

2 Studs Need Asian Or Latino
Boy toy to handle all of our needs. Take it in each hole. We are 35/25, 5'10"/5', 5'7" 170/130, 8'10" and hot. ☎ 1234

2 Big-Dicked Tops
Lookin' for worked-out bottom who needs both his holes seriously pounded. Stat: 33/175/6'18+, 40/160/5'10"/8'. Also:lite bondage, makin' nasty home videos. Safe/ discreet only. ☎ 9836

FFT Want FFB
Talented mouth and tongue for front and/or rear service to in-shape men. Me: 37, 5'8", 125, go-t, slim and defined. You: White/Asian, in-shape, 25-50yo. Plsens + + ☎ 1210

Man W/Toe Ring Sks Foot Partner
Lifelong excitement looking at fantasizing about men's barefoot. Masculine, goodlooking East Bay GWM, 5'9", 140#, tan, moderately hairy, HIV-, loves reciprocal kissing, licking, massaging barefoot, safe J/O. Let's go barefoot! ☎ 1222

Massive Daddy Tits Are Back!
Red hot nips, bulballs, big stache, shaved head on a WM, 50's, good bod, very verbal, kinky, hot in man sex, hairy bears A-. ☎ 1228

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2 Hung Top Studs Need Asian
Or Latino boy toy or slave to service us. We are early 30's GWM, Latino, slim, hung, healthy horny. Do it to us. ☎ 1230

Bondage Top
Experienced bondage top, 41, 5'8", 155, HIV-, athletic, good looking, seeks submissive, obedient, masculine, in-shape bottom, 21-45, for erotic bondage and play. Safe, discreet, trustworthy, SF/East Bay. ☎ 1231

Boots, Shoes, Sweaty Sneakers,
Horny, versatile, maduro smoking, WM, 36, 5'11", 195lb, black/grey, athletic, smooth, seeks other cigar smoking, masculine, aggressive, dominant men for sucking/fucking and verbal raunch. ☎ 9934

Daytime Asshole-Eater!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro! ☎ 1233

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Boy toy to handle all of our needs. Take it in each hole. We are 35/25, 5'10"/5', 5'7" 170/130, 8'10" and hot. ☎ 1234

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Masculine WLM, 38y/o, 5'10", 160# ISO masculine WLM, 25-35y/o, trim-average build (not over 180#) into J/O to pussy videos (my place) No: smokers, cologne, phone J/O. ☎ 9941

Workout Partner Sought
Just starting out at Golds; need someone to be motivated with and develop a great bod. ☎ 1235

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Other guys 18-25 with similar interest. Let's get together. ☎ 1236

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Soundtrack attack

Big screen, little screen, a lot of music

by Gregg Shapiro

Buffy The Vampire Slayer (TV): The hippest TV soundtrack (at least in this review)! Where else are you going to find Guided By Voices, Garbage, Bif Naked, K's Choice, Alison Krauss & Union Station, Rasputina, and The Sundays in one place? This TV soundtrack also has the "Buffy The Vampire Slayer Theme" performed by Nerf Herder, and Buffy and Angel's love theme "Close Your Eyes," performed by Christopher Beck.

SNL 25: Saturday Night Live, The Musical Performances (DreamWorks): Spread out over two discs, the 30 live performances by this diverse cross-section of artists reinforces the valuable contribution *SNL* made to the world of music by including both established (Paul Simon, James Taylor, Sting, Randy Newman, Neil Young, The Pretenders, Tom Petty, David Bowie) and up-and-coming performers (Jewel, Alanis Morissette, Mary J. Blige, Counting Crows, Beck) as guests on the show. Elvis Costello's famous "Radio Radio" switch-over is included here, and well worth having.

Go Simponsim With The Simpsons (Rhino): I realized listening to this hilarious disc (and laughing uncontrollably) that I'd rather listen to *The Simpsons* than watch them. Among the more than 50

songs and snippets on this disc (which picks up where *The Simpsons: Songs In The Key Of Springfield* left off), you will find guest performances by Sonic Youth, The Ramones and Jackie Mason, as well as some brilliant musical parodies and homages.

This Is Cult Fiction (Virgin): A cross-section of TV and movie theme songs, with a few songs that have come to be associated with certain movies thrown in to fill up space, this disc would have been much more interesting if it were more consistent. I like the idea of having all of these songs in one place; however, I would have preferred having the original versions of some of them, such as the "Batman Theme" and "Crockett's Theme" from *Miami Vice*. In any event, it was nice to hear Mike Post's "Theme From Hill Street Blues," and Bob James' "Angela (Theme From Taxi)" again.

Can't Stop Singing! (PBS Records/Warner Brothers): The companion soundtrack to the PBS special recorded at the 60th annual contest held by The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing is a guilty pleasure. I don't usually go for this kind of a cappella singing, but there is something infectious about it. Highlights include "Darktown Strutters' Ball" and "Nobody Knows What A Red-Head Mamma Can Do" per-

formed by Turning Point, "Sentimental Journey" by Standing Room Only, and FRED's "They Wrote 'Em In The Good Old Days (Parody)."

Jocks' rap

Fox Sports Presents Game Time (Priority): Queer athletic supporters may cheer when they hear this one. Thunderpuss 2000 remixes the "Fox Sports Football Theme," and sports-related people such as John Madden and Terry Bradshaw supply spoken interludes between tracks by Puff Daddy, Smash Mouth, Sugar Ray, Master P, Kid Rock, Ice Cube, and JT Money. The album reaches a frenzy on "Keep On Dancin' (Let's Go)" — Fox Sports Highlight Reel.

MTV The First 1000 Years - R&B and MTV The First 1000 Years - Hip-Hop (MTV/Rhino): Covering a 17-year time period, the 16 tracks on *Hip-Hop* represent important moments in the history of hip-hop, from Grand Master Flash ("The Message") to Master P ("Make Em Say Uh!"), and many (Ice-T, Tone Loc, N.W.A., Arrested Development, Snoop Doggy Dogg, Ice Cube, Dr. Dre and 2 Pac) in-between. The almost entirely '90s R&B is somewhat less essential.

The Insider (Columbia/Sony Music Soundtrack): Lisa Gerrard, of Dead Can Dance fame, composed and performed the score to the Michael Mann/Al Pacino vehicle *The Insider*, and it has her unmistakable stamp all over it. Chant-like and ritualistic, and as capable of creating tension as it is soothing, it sounds perfectly suited for the big screen.

Dogma (Maverick): Still, Alanis Morissette's contribution to the soundtrack of the new Kevin Smith movie *Dogma*, has the same Middle-Eastern vibe that permeated her *Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie* disc. The remaining nine tracks represent Howard Shore's symphonic score, which sounds like a cross between John Williams and Danny Elfman.

More Music From Austin Powers 2: The Spy Who Shagged Me (Maverick): Just in case you didn't get enough music on the *Austin Powers 2: The Spy Who Shagged Me* soundtrack, you may get your fill with this follow-up. Highlights include "Lords Of Acid's "Am I Sexy?"" and new songs by The Bangles ("Get The Girl"), They Might Be Giants ("Dr.



K. Wright / New Line Cinema

Heather Graham in *Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me*

"Wonderwall," and Mary Katherine Gallagher, aka Molly Shannon, singing "Out Here On My Own" from *Fame*) and a brand-new song, "You Wanna Be A Star (Superstar)," co-written by Lesley Gore.

Breakfast Of Champions (Capitol): Alan Rudolph's big screen adaptation of the classic Kurt Vonnegut novel of the same name will open and close with the speed of the blink of an eye. The soundtrack, 12 tracks of Martin Denny mania, stands a better chance of reaching a wider audience, since it has an already built-in appeal.

The Best Of Bond... James Bond 007 (Capitol): Speaking of spies and music, this disc compiles 19 songs from 18 James Bond movies. Many of the songs, written specifically for the James Bond series, had substantial success on the pop charts, including "Nobody Does It Better" performed by Carly Simon, "Live And Let Die" by Paul McCartney & Wings, "Goldfinger" performed by Shirley Bassey, and "A View To A Kill" by Duran Duran. Can you name the artist who sang the most James Bond theme songs? Can you name all five actors who have had the distinction of playing Bond?

Young Man With A Horn (Columbia/Legacy): A CD reissue, with a bonus track, of the soundtrack to the movie *Young Man With A Horn*, which starred Kirk Douglas and Doris Day. The soundtrack features Ms. Day's vocals on several well-known standards, including "The Very Thought Of You," "I Only Have Eyes For You," and "With A Song In My Heart." The instrumental numbers belong to Harry James and his orchestra.

Movie Music: The Definitive Performances (Columbia/Epic/Legacy): Celebrating a century of movie music, this two-disc, 44-track set ranges from "Singing In The Rain" from *Hollywood Revue of 1929* to "I Don't Want To Miss A Thing" from *Armageddon*. In between, you will find Jimmy Durante's "Inka Dinka Doo," Judy Garland's "The Man That Got Away," Lulu's "To Sir With Love," Barbra Streisand's "The Way We Were" and "Evergreen," Bruce Springsteen's "The Streets of Philadelphia," "The Sweetest Thing" by Refugee Camp All-Stars featuring Lauryn Hill, and a whole lot more. ▼

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Underclass

◀ page 55

scrutiny which are applied to determine the existence of discrimination and therefore the need to effect change. The first tier is often devoted to determining whether the group is a suspect class in the first place. One can easily imagine how difficult it often is for a gay group to prove its status as a class needing judicial consideration.

Analyzing Colorado

Gerstman is at pains to explore and condemn the failings of this three-tiered system. While some of the cases are of little note to the general public, others, such as the legal maneuvering of the opponents of Colorado's Amendment 2, command great attention. The political campaigns of both sides, before and after the election, are recounted and analyzed. The

amendment's unfortunate wording and the voters' reactions are traced with strict objectivity — and obvious misgivings. While he applauds the success of the injunctions, Gerstman makes it clear that these results are of no great benefit for gay rights, mainly because the electorate has not been adequately informed.

Gerstman would like to see the three-tiered class system abolished and replaced by one based on rights. One probable advantage would be that equality of rights is obviously much nearer to the rational basis of our Constitution itself. However, Gerstman himself proposes no complete system based on rights, but rather presents ideas from other thinkers to achieve a free-ranging, stimulating consideration of this whole matter.

His book is an excellent beginning for the work that needs to be done. ▼

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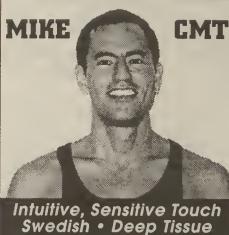
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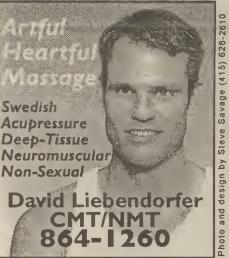
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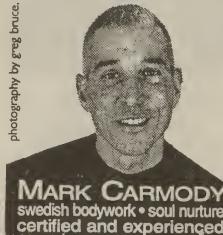


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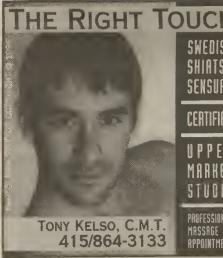


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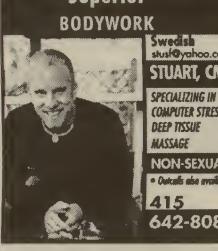


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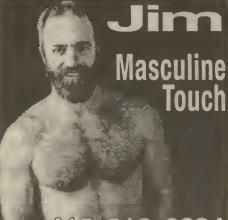
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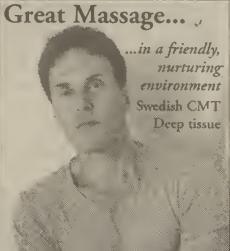
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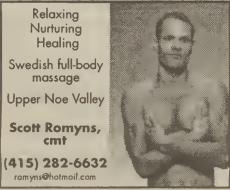


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rare erotic **BUFF TECHNIQUES**
delightfully blended into
FULL BODY massage.
By Appointment. \$80. San Bruno.
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Nurturing
Healing
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Avail on
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Seniors welcome!
Rich
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Classically trained dancer
versatile openminded. My massage is
skilled,sensual, soothing or more...
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E46

HOT NAKED BODY RUB
Very erotic & nasty oil rub by
uninhibited nude guy - mutual touch
Pls-In Only-Scott * 921-1550

E47

EROTIC SPIRITUALITY
Specialized sessions Taoist/Tantric
Erotic Massage, Erotic Body
Prayer, Anal Massage, etc. A traditional
massage required before more
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both body and spirit.

Kirk Prine, EdD, CMT and Jim Stratton,
MA. 415-552-7417 info/brochure

E46

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RELEASES TENSION

In Marin

Call Marty 415-883-4839

E46

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Serious yet Sensual

In&Out Calls - hotels too!

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E47

Nice and Naughty County Boy!

A unique Texas treat. Boyish

build, mansize meat! Unhurried

session, nude full body ecstasy!

Dallas 621-1987. Everyone welcome

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E46

FOR ASIAN MEN

Attractive blonde CMT 24 gives

Swedish/Deep-Tissue massage (415)

929-9224. Jason 24/7 * Nob Hill

E44

Sensual & Erotic Bld B1 5'9 150

25 smth in&out Kyle 251-0174

E46

ASIAN MAGIC

For soothing relaxing touch

Call Alex 415 563-7055

Pager: 415 414-8844

E46

SEXY ISRAELI

Great massage by handsome,

friendly, experienced CMT 245-1352

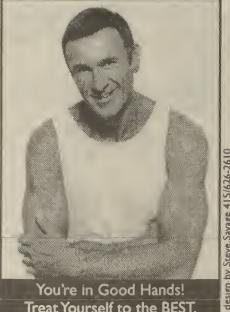
E46



Spirit Rising
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email: TGPRAK1@ao.com
Safe, Healing Massage

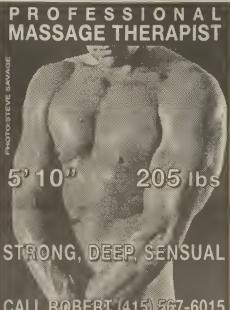
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Strong Bodywork

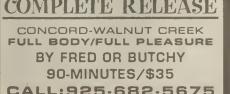


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5'10" 205 lbs
STRONG, DEEP SENSUAL
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FULL BODY/FULL PLEASURE
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90-MINUTES/\$35
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TAKING OUR PLACE IN LOVE
A one-day body-oriented workshop focused
on the queer boy, queer man
and queer elder. The elder is not
about age but a way of living in love.
Intake interview necessary. Kirk
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MASSEAGE

Serious yet Sensual

In&Out Calls - hotels too!

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E47

WALNUT CREEK

Well-built, hairy, hung, sensual

Ecstatic massage * (925)938-2416

E46

Sensual rubdown handsome Italian

Well-built mature soft spoken but

sexy. Eves/Weekend 807-9822

E48

Latin Boy gives sensual massage

Out only. \$60/hr. 510 751-8452 Alex

E47

Eastbay Comfort Warmth & More

Sensual massage by nude masseur

Bob \$25/Hr * 510 843 4408

E47

GERMAN BOY, 24

Cute blonde CMT gives Swedish/deep

tissue massage on table, hot oil.

(415) 929-9224 * Nob Hill

E47

Tailored Touch Satisfying

Sensual nude massage * 775-4623

E46

NUDEKNEAD CMT

\$55 Fons 415 577-5497

Nudeknead@aol.com

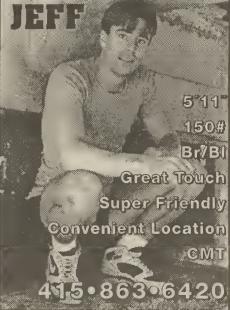
E49



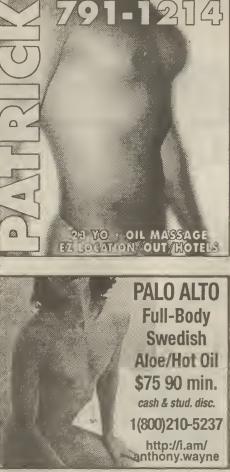
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Located in
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E46

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Sensual Thai MSG

by Kob 346-7975

ASIAN JOCK

Hot Massage, 34yo, Dark Blond/

TALL BLOND 6'3"

blue, muscular swimmer's build

hairly chest * 415-449-5968 * Out

E46

Luxuriate in the Ultimate

BARE BEAR

massage, Italian bear, 7 years experience.

1 Hour, professional and erotic.

\$50/In,\$70/Out, 24 hours. Pete (415)

550-PETE (7383)

E46

**COMPASSIONATE
TOUCH**

Sensual, Swedish, full-body

massage by very friendly, intuitive,

well-toned gldng CMT. Given in a

unique,warm,relaxing studio with all

the amenities. \$50/In,\$65/90 mins.

Page Del at 415-376-5770

E48

Massage in front of a roaring fire Lean

&muscularCMT48yoChip 626-4093

E47

MALE SOUL BODYWORK

Explore the soul by loving the body.

Massage, taoist erotic energy work,

intentional touch, intuitive reading.

646-0685

E46

GREAT BODYWORK

Swedish/Trager/deep tissue

Sensual/nurturing-replenishing

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E48

Hard-bodied Stud rubs you to release

Erotic * Daniel * 775-4623

E46

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Nudeknead@aol.com

E49

ORIENTAL MASSAGE

Full Body by yg. Oriental. Out only

\$60 SF-SMate Pg 650-373-8570

E42

MR. EAST BAY

CMT ESALEN

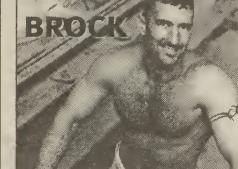
9AM to 11PM 510-839-1333 Mid 30s

E42



BROCK

Professionally
Trained M.T.
with a loving, af-
fectionate
touch...



Strong, Deep Tissue.
415.227.6062
Non-Sexual



GREAT MASSAGE!
Experience a Sensual
Massage

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* Clean
* Private
* Twin Peaks
* E-Z Parking
Call Danny
9am - 10pm
415-647-9777 \$10 OFF WITH THIS AD!

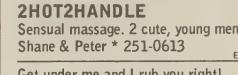


FULL BODY MASSAGE
BY
Goodlooking,
Friendly, Masculine,
Discreet, South
American
Latin Male

RAUL 863-4236
mail@rauls.com



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DADDY MASSAGE
LUSH SATISFYING
JAS**
CASTRO LOC. 864-5447



2HOT2HANDLE
Sensual massage. 2 cute, young men
Shane & Peter * 251-0613

E42

Get under me and I rub you right!
Daniel * 775-4623 * In/Out

E46

Smooth Relaxing Hands 6'1, 185
Handsome Rob Pg (415) 245-1984
\$50/In \$60/Out Eves & weekends

E48

WALNUT CREEK
Fullbody energy massage 8AM-8PM
\$35/Hr. * 925-256-7135

Native Texan and world traveler
Tall,blond,athletic,handsome!
Original,unique,eclectic, style
Performed with passion, warmth
and an artist's eye for detail. Indulge
yourself! Top quality!

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Day/eve-In/Out/Hotels Let's Talk!

E46

PERSONALS

MASSAGE

PAUL
CMT
9AM-9PM
518•1324

MODELS/ESCORTS

**LOVING
STROKES**

Nurturing, Sensual
Healing, Satisfying



**STRONG HANDS
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From Stress Reduction to
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A black and white photograph of a shirtless man's torso and arms, suggesting a massage service.

HOT!
Massage by Latino. Pgr 208-7845 E4
EXCELLENT CMT
Great touch, handsome, sexy 207-6025 E4G
Relaxing & or Erotic by a very
smth nude masc Asian*560-6353 E4G

I'M BACK-COME RELAX!!!
Warm friendly versatile Eastbay
guy gives intuitive nude erotic
fullbody massage. \$40 an hour.
Jim 510-527-7360 Eves/SA/SU/MO
ESG

RAGIN' CAJUN
Hairy Cajun/Italian ex-football
jock. 1 hour, professional, erotic
massage \$50/in, \$70/out. 24 hours
Peter * 415-552-7383

\$60/\$100 JUN 26-1817 E48
Mike, 34, 5'10", 200#, Bld/Blu
Clean-cut, Muscle Hunk
In/Out \$100 (415) 863-8932 E01
LEATHER/SM/FANTASY
40yo top 6'1", 195# 7" uncut, flattop
Gdkling into bondage, s/m, w/s,
f/f, cbt, violet wand, toys, boots.
Beginner? Have playaspace & equin

Gay NEW Comics #25

Be the happiest man alive 792-8028
CUTE ASIAN BOY E40
BB Bottom In/Marin, Out/BayArea
Ted* (415) 459-3488 E40
BLK HANDSOME STUD TOP
Very discrete and friendly clean
slim built with boyish looks and
well endowed also stays hard
first timers welcomed out only
CEDRIC PGR VM 510 639-6576 E41
5'7" 135#sexy,slim,smooth 908-8888
ASIAN PORN STAR
Hot,horny,handsome \$65in/\$85out E42
22y Frat boy Hunk
Solid muscular pecs, abs, & legs.
Deep throat and young jock ass.
5'9", 155#s, 30"w, 8"ct 739-7312 E43
EROTIC MASSAGE
In the nude. Release with a cute
housemo 25yo. masculine hairy
chest, legs, cute butt! Outcalls
anywhere in SF Bay Area. Brice \$80
Nice Release After 510-912-8812 E44

33 hairy, pierced gym body nastyman	E52
Ray (415) 672-3007 b&d, ff, ws	
Asian 29 5'7 140 415-412-7261	E48
Tom http://come.to/tom101	
Ass (510) 522-2269 (408) 828-7321 (c)	E67
HOT MAN FROM BOISE	
5'10" 152lbs swimmers build let	
your fantasies run wild Dean	
415 307-9123	E47
TOM CHASE	
FALCON SUPERSTAR	
5'10" br;br, 190lbs, solid muscle,	
washboard abs, bubble butt, hung	
10x6. Very masculine, discreet.	
Page 415-207-8826	E47
BIG HAIRY PECS	
Masculine 32yr Stud W/a Furry	
Stomach, Full Bush, Hard 8x6 Cut	
& Chin Slappin' Low Hangers 6ft	
190lbs of Solid Muscle 207-9045	E46
BONDAGEMASTER	
For 15 years the expert at bdsm	
http://www.bondagemaster.com	E54

MODELS/ESCORTS

HOT WRESTLER



KEVLAR
5'11", 175#
PG (415) 245-5774

A
REAL
nice
guy

24yo.
6'1 180#
out only
no drugs
Derek
864.7332

Reference Works: 415.503.6201

BRIT BOY

Smooth, original & v. goodlooking
cute 22 yr. old, 5'9", 150#, br;br
safe + discreet with no attitude
call Tommy: pgr: (415) 414-1114 or
ph: (415) 235-1114

E46

PUERTO RICAN

24 YRS OLD, CUTE, MASCULINE
Call Angel 510 839 7380

E46

FIST FUCKED

Hot Italian will top you with
my fist Chris 771-3234

E46

5'8", 140# 32yo hairy toned tats

INTENSE FIST

Small expert hands
Digger 415-215-8396 Out only

E49

Handsome 22yo w/packed shorts

SOCCER JOCK

Lean, athletic body-versatile
Kevin pg# 605-5328 in/out 24/7

E46

28" w 135# 6'1" 25yo

CHARMING & HANDSOME

Slender & smooth
open-minded & friendly
curious? 415-393-9020 out only
\$150 www.cyberbellion.com

E04

2 hung oral-tops for 1on 1or 2 on 1

SERVICE 2 STUDS

Very sexy, masc., shvd, head & goatees
27 & 32yo Clint* 414-1020* Anytime!

E46

Muscular top. Hard, defined body.

Great chest, big biceps, ripped abs.

Handsome 29yo. with 8 hard inches.

Offering sexy, sensual, intimate times

\$140hr. Jeff (415) 679-8487 vmm

E46

HAIRY ARAB

5'4", muscular, 140lbs long hair
\$120 NO ATTITUDE

415 303-4626

E46

Sweet 21yr old firm smooth boys

body Ericks page #415 313 8948

E48

HORNY HUNGRY BOTTOM!

Hot globes of butt! 650-592-4620

E52

Kicks back for service *24 Hours

10X6"UNCUT

Big fat tool 503-0504 Pgr678-1005

E46

22yo, 5'9", 150#, blond/blue

BEAUTIFUL BOY!

Smooth, tan, lean & muscular.
Very friendly & affectionate.
Ryan 336-3369 Out only \$150

E47

OH DADDY!
10.5X7.5
6'3" 200 47
PGR/VM
415.224.9382
shungdad@aol.com

photo: Vince Gobinly 415.646.0883

S/M SENSUALITY
-long, & slow- my specialty.
6'2", 185, strong, gymtoned
master into all aspects &
degrees of leatherplay.
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.
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PROFESSIONAL
EXCELLENCE
Dominant,
Aggressive &
Attractive
5'9"
190#
Bi/Bi
Sm OK
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LEATHER TOP!

Handsome, Expert Master
Light To Heavy Sensual s/m
TOM 415-487-1296

E47

X-MILITARY TOP

26 6'2" 180# 31" w bld 8 1/2c
bubble b, 140in/150out can travel
passionate 679-8675.

E46

Safe exploration of many scenes
29y 6'155# blueyes Dillon 235-4269
PUNK LOOK-LOVING ATTITUDE

E46

VERY HOT 33YR OLD MAN

You just have a little time special
M-F 12pm-4pm (415) 307-9123

E47

NEW GUY IN SF

Friendly, versatile, hot ass,
nice bulge. See me at www.minds
pring.com/~reedparker or call
415-401-9378

E46

Huge hung 10x7 size 11 feet

nice balls loves to show off.

J/0 top get svrcd 415-256-6743

E46

Hndsm hairy massively endowed

CHOKE ON THIS!

Hung 10x7 34 6' 150# runners bld
dominant mascln gentle strength
& arousing edge aggressive top
loves 2b serviced verbal kink
SF Bay outcalls Tom 415-256-6743

E47

33YR OLD HOT MAN

1st meet me for breakfast and
maybe we can do a hot lunch
Perry 415-307-9123

E47

WANT IT ROUGH?

Lean, smooth leather top, 32
gives it like you need it.

SM/BD/FF/WS, dog/slave training

Page Jack 790-3312

E47

Distinguished Escort

Handsome hung age 44 discrete
\$60 outcalls only Dave 503-1629

E46

BORN TO SERVE MEN

HOT, HUNGRY, HUNGRY BOTTOM
Alek, 242-4230, 24 hrs. in/out

E47

ASIAN COLLEGE STUD

5'11" 167lbs 8" uncut, total top,
smooth torso, suave 415-251-0261

E51

Better than Valium

Full Body Massage 715-6410 Brad

E47

IRISH FIRE

10 inches of pure pleasure.

Call Barry 415 377 7756.

E45

Dominant Leatherman
Bondage, SM, WS, CBT,
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40yo, 6'1", 195#, Brown Hair,
flat top, Blue Eyes, mustache,
7" Uncut.

Beginners Welcome
Have equipment and playspace.
Scott (415) 790-0902 In/Out
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21 y.o. elite escort
gorgeous european
american boy
5'11" 10#
of ripped muscle
very hot • classy • intelligent
super sexy
415.699.6715
Photo taken May 1999

CLEAN-CUT JOCK
28, 5'10", 160 lbs, crewcut
tight body, 6-pack abs
hug 9cut and thick
vers, friendly 902-9477

E48

Spanking & Padding
Discreet, 773-9130 Kory
5'10" 155# 25yo

E47

TIGHT MUSCULAR BODY;
Nasty mind.
Very handsome, & masculine
Cell phone 415 596 6179 out only

E46

Sexy blond jock with w/shbnd abs &
Incredible pecs. 5'9", 165, 8-
1/2"tanned masculine, & very
handsome, \$100/\$120.
JASON 864-1190

E46

BOYS ARE US!
3 blonde/blue & 2 Latin boys
20-27yo, 5'9"-6", 155"-170"-

E47

Clean cut, smooth & no attitude.
5 inquiries in 1, safe & discreet.
In/out \$130/hr. Page 245-3136 Mike

E46

STATUE OF DAVID
The genuine 6', 180# blond Adonis!
Smooth, built, satisfaction 2/theore
Hot! Hourly/overnight out 310-2930

E51

Muscular Man 925-689-6076

E47

SMOOTH BOY
22yrs wholesome cute thin fair
www.cm-inc.com/~goblin/w
pgr: 415-414-1669 out-call fun

E46

225LB HARDCORE
ITALMUSCLE4YOU
TAN-BUFFED-REAL DEAL
650-615-4111-650-220-2044

E47

You: massage small endowed hunk.
Enjoy yourself. Out. 510.466-0455

E46

CUTE BOYISH 20 Y/O
Athletic & masculine, out only
Call Aidan @ 415-251-3065

E46

Call Jake 415 519 7546 in/out
21 YR. FILIPINO/WHITE
5'6" 120lb cleancut bottom.

E48

Easy-going, Black, uncut & big
6' 165# well toned, clean shaven
short hair call for aptt.

E48

LIVE THE MYTH!
415-253-8080 \$150

E46

Hot x-smth Asian bottom 5'8", 140
swim. bld. bld. butt 560-6353

E48

LUKE STEELE
TONY 487-0568

cell: 902.0748
pgr: 201.6533
6' 210#
www.lukesteele.com

20 YEARS OLD
Blond 5'10", 150 lbs
Dut Only
790-5076 pgr

HOT LATIN BOY
Good looking, smooth
masculine and discreet.
Very friendly, passionate kisser
call Rick 415-245-2032 out

E48

CUTE FACE DIRTY MIND
25, 5'11", 160# smooth, vers w/ hot
butt Kyle 3766396www.lovings.com

E47

MAN WITH A FIST-TOYS
Need a helping hand? I'm great
w/beginners than advanced. Give it
up! Nick-Nob Hill 885-1471

E46

AGGRESSIVE TOP
5'9", 190 bl/bl body builder.
Very attractive muscular dominant.
sm 415 372 0458.

E45

YES SIR!!!
Masculine bottom to serve you
5'9" smooth & muscular
Take control page Nick 709-1467

E47

9"rod, small firm butt 140lbs, 6'1",
Versatile, pg 415-210-2624

E49

New ad- 5'9", 180#, 34yr old, hot
MUSCLE STUD

E49

All-American, cleancut, no tats
or piercings. Hard, lean, defined,
vascular, masculine. Have buddy
available for 3 ways. 415-309 4298

E47

6'205#, 47c, 31w, 18b, 8.5x6.5cut
MUSCLE TOP-NEW

E47

Educated, discreet, out 415 309-8208

E47

HUGE BB IN SF
NOV 18-21
25 57.5" 260 54c 21a 30th 20ca

E49

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AOL.COM/AARONTHEBB/
Pgr 707-269-8224 only Nov 18-21

E46

ALWAYS NAKED
Buffed athletic nudist &
exhibitionist does it
your way. Energetic and
friendly. 24hr 207-5498

E48

SEXY BOY 21
Handsome, lean and smooth, masc.
friendly and intelligent
college student offers intimate
affectionate and very hot times
for distinguished and mature
gentlemen of all ages.

E46

Safety and discretion.
Ricardo (pgr) 415-303-4342 out

E48

TONY 487-0568

25 YEARS OLD
PAGE GARY 415.270.9516

RUCK 415-MAN-MAXT
BEAUTIFUL LATINO
6', 160#, very good-looking, top,
smooth, uncut, friendly.
Antonio 415 298 6452 in/out

E47

8" Nudist/Oral/Ken/346-4966/\$60
8" Nudist/Oral/Ken/346-4966/\$60

E50

SEXY SEXY SEXY
Hot young model 22 tight gymbod
hug big and cute. You'll get wet
WES 415-270-5239

E47

Hot Modern Primitive Gypsy Boy
KAL*1WEEK ONLY
155# 8.5" shaved, tattooed pierced

E46

A TRUE EXPERIENCE
415-251-1636 S/F, E. Bay 24hrs.

E46

tit play butt paddled fistig
Daniel 775-4623 in/out

E46

Spanking, strappings as a dance
of male energy. Call 646-0685.

E46

HOT UNCUT IRISH REDHEAD
celebrates his birthday this
weekend. Wanna come play 998-8087

E46

Leatherman lean & muscular 6' 180
48, 8 1/2" sling, toys, rim seat, uniforms
long sessions avail. Photo on line
Love *WS*FExpert*Derek*2070381

E47

SCOTT
650-755-3698

E46

BLK TOP PORN STAR
Ty Lattimore 415 841-6294

E49

Shakazulu
27yo Blk 195lb tight musc 8" tool dom
I say u obey days & night time outcalls
only 100% man pgr 415 251 2828 Tank

E46

BRITISH PROFESSOR
Bearded, uncut, slim, 45
A firm hand, tutorials,
Oakland-510 594 1590

E46

LIKE 'EM BIG?
Handsome muscle-stud kicks back
while you service his 9 1/2 inches.
Jake 415-208-4563 \$150.

E46

STEAMY LATIN TOP 28Y
57", 140, Safe\$100 Franc pgr 251-2723

E46

Pierced, tattooed, buzzed hair
TAHOE SNOWBOARDER
6', 195, 33, bi, very masc, muscular
gd lkng top, Tahoe, SF, Sac.
Zach 415-515-1428 msg. Out only.

E46

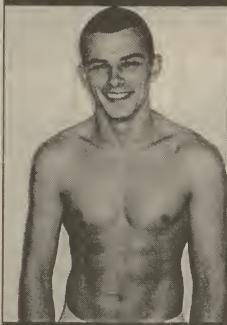
PERSONALS

MODELS/ESCORTS

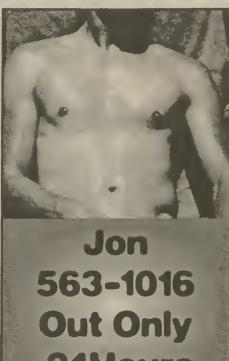
**YOU
NEED A BOT-
TOM**
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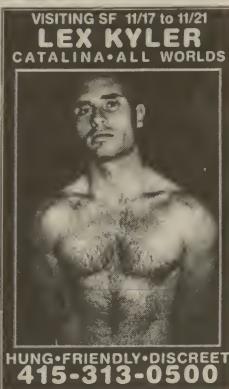
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